

27 (d) Sending a tax notice to a designated third party,
28 mortgagee, or vendee pursuant to s. 197.344(1).

29 (2) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
30 Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
31 on October 2, 2020, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
32 through reenactment by the Legislature.

33 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
34 necessity that the e-mail address of a taxpayer which is held by
35 a tax collector for the purpose of sending a tax notice or
36 obtaining the consent of the taxpayer to the electronic
37 transmission of a tax notice be made exempt from s. 119.07(1),
38 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State
39 Constitution. E-mail, rather than traditional postal mail, is
40 increasingly used as a means for communicating and conducting
41 business, including official state and local business such as
42 the payment of taxes. In order to conduct business
43 electronically with a tax collector, the taxpayer must report
44 his or her personal e-mail address. Under current law, e-mail
45 addresses are public records available to anyone for any
46 purpose. However, such addresses are unique to the individual
47 and, when combined with other personal identifying information,
48 can be used for identity theft, taxpayer scams, and other
49 invasive contacts. The public availability of personal e-mail
50 addresses invites and exacerbates thriving and well-documented
51 criminal activities and puts taxpayers at increased risk of
52 harm. Such harm would be significantly curtailed by the creation

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53 | of the public records exemption.

54 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.