

By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and
Senator Young

586-02679-17

2017492c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
4 records requirements for personal identifying
5 information of the alleged victim in an allegation of
6 sexual harassment; providing for future legislative
7 review and repeal of the exemption; providing a
8 statement of public necessity; providing an effective
9 date.

10
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12
13 Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of
14 section 119.071, Florida Statutes, to read:

15 119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of
16 public records.—

17 (2) AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS.—

18 (m) Personal identifying information of the alleged victim
19 in an allegation of sexual harassment is confidential and exempt
20 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State
21 Constitution. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government
22 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand
23 repealed on October 2, 2022, unless reviewed and saved from
24 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

25 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
26 necessity that personal identifying information of the alleged
27 victim in an allegation of sexual harassment be made
28 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and
29 s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. The disclosure of

586-02679-17

2017492c1

30 such information could harm alleged victims by placing them at
31 risk of further harassment and retaliation. Additionally, the
32 potential for disclosure of such information could create a
33 disincentive for victims to report instances of harassment. The
34 Legislature finds that the potential harm that may result from
35 the release of such information outweighs any public benefit
36 that may be derived from the disclosure of such information.

37 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.