

By Senator Lee

20-00764-18

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to public records; amending s.  
3       97.0585, F.S., and reenacting subsection (3), relating  
4       to a public records exemption for information  
5       regarding voters and voter registration; providing an  
6       exemption from public records requirements for  
7       information concerning preregistered voter  
8       registration applicants who are minors; providing for  
9       future legislative review and repeal; providing for  
10      retroactive application; providing a statement of  
11      public necessity; providing an effective date.

12  
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15       Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 97.0585, Florida  
16       Statutes, is amended, and subsection (3) of that section is  
17       reenacted, to read:

18       97.0585 Public records exemption; information regarding  
19       voters and voter registration; confidentiality.—

20       (1) The following information held by an agency, as defined  
21       in s. 119.011, and obtained for the purpose of voter  
22       registration is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
23       24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and may be used only for  
24       purposes of voter registration:

25       (a) All declinations to register to vote made pursuant to  
26       ss. 97.057 and 97.058.

27       (b) Information relating to the place where a person  
28       registered to vote or where a person updated a voter  
29       registration.

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30 (c) The social security number, driver license number, and  
31 Florida identification number of a voter registration applicant  
32 or voter.

33 (d) All information concerning preregistered voter  
34 registration applicants who are 16 or 17 years of age. This  
35 paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in  
36 accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2,  
37 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment  
38 by the Legislature.

39 (3) This section applies to information held by an agency  
40 before, on, or after the effective date of this exemption.

41 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
42 necessity that all information concerning preregistered voter  
43 registration applicants who are 16 or 17 years of age which is  
44 held by an agency, and obtained for the purpose of voter  
45 registration, be confidential and exempt from public records  
46 requirements and be used only for purposes of voter  
47 registration. Information concerning preregistered 16-year-old  
48 and 17-year-old voter registration applicants could be misused  
49 if released. Minors are more vulnerable members of society, and  
50 the widespread release of information acquired through  
51 preregistration activities may be used to solicit, harass,  
52 stalk, or intimidate such individuals. Without such protection,  
53 a minor may be less likely to take advantage of preregistering  
54 to vote, thus hindering the effective and efficient  
55 administration of a program that otherwise encourages greater  
56 participation in the democratic process.

57 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.