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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to public records; amending s.
 288.075, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
 records requirements for certain information held by
 an economic development agency; providing that such
 information may be released in an aggregated and
 anonymized format; providing for future legislative
 review and repeal of the exemption; providing a
 statement of public necessity; providing an effective
 date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 288.075, Florida
 Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (8), and a new subsection
 (7) is added to that section, to read:

288.075 Confidentiality of records.—

(7) LOAN PROGRAMS.—

(a) The following information held by an economic
 development agency pursuant to its administration of a state or
 federally funded small business loan program is exempt from s.
 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

- 1. Tax returns.
- 2. Financial information.
- 3. Credit history information, credit reports, and credit

26 scores.

27 (b) This subsection does not prohibit the disclosure of
28 information held by an economic development agency pursuant to
29 its administration of a small business loan program in an
30 aggregated and anonymized format.

31 (c) This subsection is subject to the Open Government
32 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand
33 repealed on October 2, 2026, unless reviewed and saved from
34 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

35 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
36 necessity that tax returns; financial information; and credit
37 history information, credit reports, and credit scores held by
38 an economic development agency pursuant to its administration of
39 any state or federally funded small business loan program be
40 made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a),
41 Article I of the State Constitution. In order to assess the
42 viability of loans, an economic development agency may obtain
43 sensitive information of an applicant or borrower, including
44 certain contact and financial information. If released, the
45 sensitive information could be used by fraudulent contractors,
46 predatory lenders, thieves, or individuals seeking to impose on
47 the applicant or borrower. Therefore, it is necessary that
48 sensitive information held by an economic development agency
49 pursuant to its administration of any state or federally funded
50 small business loan program be protected to ensure that

51 applicants and borrowers are not harassed, intimidated, or
52 potentially defrauded. The Legislature finds the harm that may
53 result from the release of such sensitive information outweighs
54 the public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of
55 the information.

56 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.