| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| 2 | An act relating to public records; amending s. |
| 3 | 316.066, F.S.; revising an exemption from public |
| 4 | records requirements for written reports of crashes; |
| 5 | revising the agencies that hold records to which the |
| 6 | exemption applies; removing a time limit for the |
| 7 | exemption; providing applicability; revising entities |
| 8 | to which records may be made available; requiring |
| 9 | certain entities to enter into a memorandum of |
| 10 | understanding; revising conditions precedent to |
| 11 | accessing a crash report; exempting certain |
| 12 | computerized crash report data; providing |
| 13 | construction; providing for future review and repeal; |
| 14 | providing penalties; amending s. 316.650, F.S.; |
| 15 | defining the term "driver information"; providing an |
| 16 | exemption from public records requirements for driver |
| 17 | information contained in a uniform traffic citation; |
| 18 | providing applicability; authorizing release of driver |
| 19 | information under certain circumstances; providing for |
| 20 | future review and repeal; providing statements of |
| 21 | public necessity; providing an effective date. |
| 22 | |
| 23 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: |
| 24 | |
| 25 | Section 1. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 316.066, |
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26 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

27 28 316.066 Written reports of crashes.-

28 (2)(a) Crash reports that reveal the identity of, home or 29 employment telephone number or home or employment address of, or 30 other personal information concerning the parties involved in 31 the crash and that are held by an any agency as defined in s. 32 119.011 that regularly receives or prepares information from or 33 concerning the parties to motor vehicle crashes are confidential 34 and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This exemption applies to such crash reports held 35 36 by an agency before, on, or after the effective date of the 37 exemption for a period of 60 days after the date the report is filed. 38

39 Crash reports held by an agency under paragraph (a) (b) may be made immediately available to the parties involved in the 40 41 crash, their legal representatives, their licensed insurance 42 agents, their insurers or insurers to which they have applied 43 for coverage, persons under contract with such insurers to 44 provide claims or underwriting information, prosecutorial 45 authorities, law enforcement agencies, the Department of 46 Transportation, the Department of Health, county and municipal 47 traffic operations, victim services programs, and any private 48 person or entity acting on behalf of a federal, state, or local 49 governmental agency in carrying out its functions radio and television stations licensed by the Federal Communications 50

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| 51 | Commission, newspapers qualified to publish legal notices under |
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| 52 | ss. 50.011 and 50.031, and, in accordance with paragraph (f), |
| 53 | free newspapers of general circulation, published once a week or |
| 54 | more often, of which at least 7,500 copies are distributed by |
| 55 | mail or by carrier as verified by a postal statement or by a |
| 56 | notarized printer's statement of press run, which are intended |
| 57 | to be generally distributed and circulated, and which contain |
| 58 | news of general interest with at least 10 pages per publication, |
| 59 | available and of interest to the public generally for the |
| 60 | dissemination of news. For the purposes of this section, the |
| 61 | following products or publications are not newspapers as |
| 62 | referred to in this section: those intended primarily for |
| 63 | members of a particular profession or occupational group; those |
| 64 | with the primary purpose of distributing advertising; and those |
| 65 | with the primary purpose of publishing names and other personal |
| 66 | identifying information concerning parties to motor vehicle |
| 67 | crashes . |
| 68 | (c) <u>A federal, state, or</u> Any local governmental , state, or |
| 69 | federal agency, or any private person or entity acting on behalf |
| 70 | of a federal, state, or local governmental agency in carrying |
| 71 | <u>out its functions, which</u> that is authorized to have access to |
| 72 | crash reports by any provision of law shall be granted such |
| 73 | access in the furtherance of the agency's statutory duties |
| 74 | pursuant to a memorandum of understanding approved by the agency |
| 75 | holding the crash reports which requires that personal |
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| 76 | information contained in the crash reports remain confidential |
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| 77 | and exempt. |
| 78 | (d) As a condition precedent to accessing a crash report |
| 79 | within 60 days after the date the report is filed, a person must |
| 80 | submit to the agency that holds the crash report, in a format |
| 81 | prescribed by the agency, present a valid driver license or |
| 82 | other photographic identification, proof of status, or |
| 83 | identification that demonstrates his or her qualifications to |
| 84 | access that information and file a written sworn statement |
| 85 | attesting to the person's identity, authority to access the |
| 86 | crash report under paragraph (b), and agreement to keep the $rac{with}{}$ |
| 87 | the state or local agency in possession of the information |
| 88 | stating that information from a crash report made confidential |
| 89 | and <u>refrain from using the crash report</u> exempt by this section |
| 90 | will not be used for any commercial solicitation of accident |
| 91 | victims , or knowingly <u>disclosing the crash report</u> disclosed to |
| 92 | any third party for the purpose of such solicitation, <u>or</u> |
| 93 | knowingly disclosing the crash report to any third party that is |
| 94 | not authorized by this section to access such personal |
| 95 | information during the period of time that the information |
| 96 | remains confidential and exempt. Such written sworn statement |
| 97 | must be completed and sworn to by the requesting party for each |
| 98 | individual crash report that is being requested within 60 days |
| 99 | after the report is filed. In lieu of requiring the written |
| 100 | sworn statement, an agency may provide crash reports by |
| | |

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101 electronic means pursuant to a memorandum of understanding that 102 requires third-party vendors under contract with one or more 103 insurers, but only when such contract states that personal 104 information contained in from a crash report remain made 105 confidential and exempt and prohibits such personal information 106 from being by this section will not be used for any commercial 107 solicitation of accident victims by the vendors, or knowingly 108 disclosed by the vendors to any third party who is not 109 authorized by this section to access such personal information for the purpose of such solicitation, during the period of time 110 111 that the information remains confidential and exempt, and only 112 when a copy of such contract is furnished to the agency as proof 113 of the vendor's claimed status.

114 This subsection does not prohibit an agency from (e) 115 providing summary reports of crashes to radio and television 116 stations, newspapers, and other news media, which reports may 117 disclose information about crashes, including, but not limited 118 to, the time, date, and location of a crash; the name, age, 119 gender, race, and ethnicity of any driver involved in the crash; 120 a general description of any vehicle involved in the crash, including the vehicle's color, make, model, body style, and 121 year; the names of the law enforcement agencies and officers 122 123 responding to the scene or investigating the crash; the 124 circumstances of the crash; and whether any arrests were made or 125 traffic citations were issued prevent the dissemination or

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126 publication of news to the general public by any legitimate 127 media entitled to access confidential and exempt information 128 pursuant to this section. 129 (f) If crash reports are created by or submitted to an 130 agency electronically as data elements within a computerized 131 database, or if personal information from a crash report is 132 entered into a computerized database, such crash report data 133 held by an agency is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) 134 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This exemption 135 applies to such crash report data held by an agency before, on, or after the effective date of the exemption. This paragraph 136 137 does not prevent an agency from disclosing: 1. A crash report pursuant to paragraphs (b)-(d) which is 138 139 rendered as an individual report in its original format, whether 140 printed as a paper document or provided in electronic format 141 such as portable document format or tagged image file format. 142 2. Extracts of crash report data if all personal 143 information is omitted from the extracts. 144 (g) (f) Free newspapers of general circulation published 145 once a week or more often, of which at least 7,500 copies are 146 distributed by mail or by carrier as verified by a postal 147 statement or by a notarized printer's statement of press run, 148 which are intended to be generally distributed and circulated, 149 which contain news of general interest with at least 10 pages per publication, available and of interest to the public 150

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151 generally for the dissemination of news, and which request 10 or more crash reports within a 24-hour period before 60 days have 152 153 elapsed after the report is filed may not have access to the 154 home, cellular, employment, or other telephone number or the 155 home or employment address of any of the parties involved in the 156 crash. This subsection paragraph is subject to the Open 157 Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and 158 shall stand repealed on October 2, 2026 2019, unless reviewed 159 and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

160 (3) (a) <u>A</u> Any driver failing to file the written report 161 required under subsection (1) commits a noncriminal traffic 162 infraction, punishable as a nonmoving violation as provided in 163 chapter 318.

(b) <u>An Any employee of an a state or local agency, as</u>
<u>defined in s. 119.011</u>, in possession of information made
confidential and exempt by this section who knowingly discloses
such confidential and exempt information to a person not
entitled to access such information under this section commits a
felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.
775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(c) <u>A Any person who</u>, knowing that he or she is not entitled to obtain information made confidential and exempt by this section, who obtains or attempts to obtain such information commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

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| 176 | (d) <u>A</u> Any person who knowingly uses confidential and |
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| 177 | exempt information in violation of a filed written sworn |
| 178 | statement, memorandum of understanding, or contractual agreement |
| 179 | required by this section commits a felony of the third degree, |
| 180 | punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. |
| 181 | Section 2. Subsection (11) of section 316.650, Florida |
| 182 | Statutes, is amended to read: |
| 183 | 316.650 Traffic citations |
| 184 | (11) (a) As used in this subsection, the term "driver |
| 185 | information" means a driver's date of birth, driver license |
| 186 | number, address excluding the five-digit zip code, telephone |
| 187 | number, motor vehicle license plate number, and trailer tag |
| 188 | number. The term does not include the driver's name. |
| 189 | (b)1. Driver information contained in a uniform traffic |
| 190 | citation held by an agency is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. |
| 191 | 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph applies |
| 192 | to driver information held by an agency before, on, or after the |
| 193 | effective date of the exemption. |
| 194 | 2. An agency may release driver information in accordance |
| 195 | with any of the permissible uses listed in 18 U.S.C. s. 2721(b) |
| 196 | in the same manner applicable to the release of personal |
| 197 | information contained in a motor vehicle record pursuant to s. |
| 198 | <u>119.0712(2)(b).</u> |
| 199 | 3. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset |
| 200 | Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed |
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201 on October 2, 2027, unless reviewed and saved from repeal 202 through reenactment by the Legislature. 203 Driver information contained in a uniform traffic (C) 204 citation may, which includes but is not limited to, the accused 205 person's name and address, shall not be used for commercial 206 solicitation purposes. However, the use of such driver 207 information contained in a uniform traffic citation shall not be 208 considered a commercial purpose when used for publication in a 209 newspaper or other news periodical, when used for broadcast by 210 radio or television, or when used to inform a person of the 211 availability of driver safety training. 212 Section 3. (1) The Legislature finds that it is a public 213 necessity that crash reports that reveal personal information 214 concerning parties involved in a crash and computerized crash 215 report data be confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), 216 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State 217 Constitution. Crash reports reveal significant personal 218 information, not only about drivers involved in a crash but also 219 about motor vehicle owners, motor vehicle passengers, and other 220 witnesses and about owners of nonvehicle property damaged in a 221 crash. Pervasive use of the Internet and related technologies 222 abet those with malicious purposes in exploiting the use of 223 personal information, such as a motorist's date of birth, driver license number, and address, creating ever-expanding threats to 224 225 motorist privacy and security never envisioned in generations

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| 226 | past. Moreover, ever-increasing use of information technology |
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| 227 | for the preparation, submission, and management of crash reports |
| 228 | has led agencies to hold vast repositories of computerized crash |
| 229 | report data, which includes such personal information. Motorist |
| 230 | personal information, when held by the Department of Highway |
| 231 | Safety and Motor Vehicles in motor vehicle records, is |
| 232 | confidential pursuant to the federal Driver's Privacy Protection |
| 233 | Act of 1994, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721 et seq., and s. 119.0712(2), |
| 234 | Florida Statutes. These restrictions on disclosure of motorist |
| 235 | personal information, however, have not applied to personal |
| 236 | information contained in crash reports. When crash reports and |
| 237 | computerized crash report data are made available to the public, |
| 238 | because they comprise much of the same personal information |
| 239 | contained in motor vehicle records, the protections afforded by |
| 240 | the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994 are |
| 241 | significantly undermined, eroding the privacy and safety of |
| 242 | motorists. Therefore, the Legislature finds that it is a public |
| 243 | necessity to make confidential and exempt from public records |
| 244 | requirements crash reports that reveal personal information and |
| 245 | computerized crash report data. |
| 246 | (2) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity |
| 247 | that driver information contained in a uniform traffic citation |
| 248 | held by an agency be exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, |
| 249 | and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Uniform |
| 250 | traffic citations reveal significant personal information about |
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| 251 | drivers issued a citation. Pervasive use of the Internet and |
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| 252 | related technologies abet those with malicious purposes in |
| 253 | exploiting the use of personal information, such as a motorist's |
| 254 | date of birth, driver license number, and address, creating |
| 255 | ever-expanding threats to motorist privacy and security never |
| 256 | envisioned in generations past. Motorist personal information, |
| 257 | when held by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles |
| 258 | in motor vehicle records, is confidential pursuant to the |
| 259 | federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, 18 U.S.C. ss. |
| 260 | 2721 et seq., and s. 119.0712(2), Florida Statutes. These |
| 261 | restrictions on disclosure of motorist personal information, |
| 262 | however, have not applied to driver information contained in |
| 263 | uniform traffic citations. When driver information contained in |
| 264 | uniform traffic citations is made available to the public, |
| 265 | because it comprises much of the same personal information |
| 266 | contained in motor vehicle records, the protections afforded by |
| 267 | the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994 are |
| 268 | significantly undermined, eroding the privacy and safety of |
| 269 | motorists. Therefore, the Legislature finds that it is a public |
| 270 | necessity to make exempt from public records requirements driver |
| 271 | information contained in uniform traffic citations. |
| 272 | Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022. |
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