FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

586-00941-22 20227010pb

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to a review under the Open Government Sunset Review Act; amending s. 744.2111, F.S., which provides an exemption from public records requirements for certain information held by the Department of Elderly Affairs in connection with a filed complaint or subsequently conducted investigation relating to public and professional guardians; removing the scheduled repeal of the exemption; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 744.2111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

744.2111 Confidentiality.-

- (1) The following are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, when held by the Department of Elderly Affairs in connection with a complaint filed and any subsequent investigation conducted pursuant to this part, unless the disclosure is required by court order:
- (a) Personal identifying information of a complainant or ward.
  - (b) All personal health and financial records of a ward.
  - (c) All photographs and video recordings.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, information held by the department, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution

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until the investigation is completed or ceases to be active, unless the disclosure is required by court order.

- (3) This section does not prohibit the department from providing such information to any law enforcement agency, any other regulatory agency in the performance of its official duties and responsibilities, or the clerk of the circuit court pursuant to s. 744.368.
- (4) The exemption under this section applies to all documents received by the department in connection with a complaint before, on, or after July 1, 2017.
- (5) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
  Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
  on October 2, 2022, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
  through reenactment by the Legislature.
  - Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2022.