

By Senator Diaz

36-00564-22

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 943.0583, F.S.; providing that the personal
4 identifying information of a victim of human
5 trafficking in a petition for human trafficking victim
6 expunction and in all pleadings and documents related
7 to the petition is confidential and exempt from public
8 records requirements; providing for future legislative
9 review and repeal of the exemption under the Open
10 Government Sunset Review Act; 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 (12) is added to section 943.0583,
16 Florida Statutes, to read:

17 943.0583 Human trafficking victim expunction.—

18 (12) (a) The personal identifying information of a victim of
19 human trafficking in a petition filed under this section and in
20 all pleadings and documents related to the petition is
21 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I
22 of the State Constitution.

23 (b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government
24 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand
25 repealed on October 2, 2027, unless reviewed and saved from
26 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

27 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
28 necessity that the personal identifying information of a victim
29 of human trafficking in a petition filed under s. 943.0583,

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30 Florida Statutes, and in all pleadings and documents related to
31 the petition be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1),
32 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State
33 Constitution. Persons who are victims of human trafficking and
34 who have been convicted of crimes committed at the behest of
35 their traffickers are themselves victims of crimes. These
36 victims face barriers to employment and loss of other life
37 opportunities, and the fact that they are seeking expungement,
38 as well as the information contained in related pleadings and
39 documents, would expose these petitioners to possible
40 discrimination due to details of their past lives becoming
41 public knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary that the personal
42 identifying information of victims of human trafficking in these
43 petitions, pleadings, and related documents be made confidential
44 in order for human trafficking victims to have the chance to
45 rebuild their lives and reenter society.

46 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.