CS/CS/HB 1509

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records; amending s. 30.15,
3	F.S.; providing that certain information relating to
4	school guardians held by the Department of Law
5	Enforcement, a law enforcement agency, a school
6	district, or a charter school is exempt from public
7	records requirements; providing for future legislative
8	review and repeal of the exemption; providing a
9	statement of public necessity; providing a contingent
10	effective date.
11	
12	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
13	
14	Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 30.15,
15	Florida Statutes, to read:
16	30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations
17	(6) Any information held by the Department of Law
18	Enforcement, a law enforcement agency, a school district, or a
19	charter school that would identify whether a person has been
20	certified to serve as a school guardian is exempt from s.
21	119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This
22	subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act
23	in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October
24	2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through
25	reenactment by the Legislature.

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26 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public 27 necessity that any information held by the Department of Law 28 Enforcement, a law enforcement agency, a school district, or a 29 charter school that would identify whether a person has been 30 certified to serve as a school quardian is exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the 31 32 State Constitution. School security and student safety are fundamental priorities in this state as is the safety of people 33 34 serving or who have served as school guardians. School guardians 35 serve a critical role as safe-school officers and first 36 responders, and their presence on school grounds serves as a 37 deterrent against incidents threatening the lives of students and school personnel. Disclosure of the identity of persons 38 39 certified as school guardians might undermine such deterrence 40 and may compromise their safety along with the safety of 41 students by allowing ill-intentioned persons to compare the 42 records of certified school guardians to information concerning 43 school employees to discern whether a person has been appointed 44 to serve as a school quardian. The public disclosure of such 45 information would also adversely affect their ability to adequately respond to an active assailant incident as an 46 47 assailant might be alerted in advance that a particular person 48 is certified as a school guardian. Furthermore, school guardians 49 who have been appointed to that position might leave their 50 appointment for a period of time while maintaining their

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51	certification, and, thereafter, be reappointed at a future date.
52	The safety of such persons would be compromised if their status
53	as school guardians became public record by virtue of their
54	continued certification. Accordingly, it is necessary to protect
55	the identity of persons certified as school guardians from
56	public records requirements in order to effectively and
57	efficiently implement the purpose and intent of school guardian
58	programs.
59	Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date
60	that HB 1473 or similar legislation takes effect, if such
61	legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
62	extension thereof and becomes a law.

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