

By the Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability;
and Senators Rouson and Davis

585-03006-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; creating s. 16.64,
3 F.S.; providing an exemption from public records
4 requirements for the personal identifying information
5 in an application submitted to the Department of Legal
6 Affairs by, or on behalf of, a person seeking
7 compensation through the Dozier School for Boys and
8 Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program;
9 providing for future legislative review and repeal of
10 the exemption; providing a statement of public
11 necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Section 16.64, Florida Statutes, is created to
16 read:

17 16.64 Applications for compensation through the Dozier
18 School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation
19 Program; public records exemption.—Any name, date of birth,
20 driver license number, social security number, home address,
21 mailing address, telephone number, or electronic mail address in
22 an application submitted to the Department of Legal Affairs by,
23 or on behalf of, a person seeking compensation through the
24 Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation
25 Program is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
26 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, and may not be
27 disclosed except upon court order. This paragraph is subject to
28 the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s.
29 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless

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30 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
31 Legislature.

32 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
33 necessity that any name, date of birth, driver license number,
34 social security number, home address, mailing address, telephone
35 number, or electronic mail address in an application submitted
36 to the Department of Legal Affairs by, or on behalf of, a person
37 seeking compensation through the Dozier School for Boys and
38 Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program be made
39 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and
40 s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution, except upon court
41 order. The Legislature finds that the release of such personal
42 identifying information, except upon court order, could subject
43 the persons applying for compensation through the Dozier School
44 for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program to
45 further trauma should their status as a victim of the Dozier
46 School for Boys or the Okeechobee School, or the nature of the
47 abuse each victim suffered there, be made public, and to the
48 possibility of harassment. The Legislature further finds that a
49 victim of the Dozier School for Boys or the Okeechobee School
50 may be more likely to come forward and apply for compensation
51 through the Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim
52 Compensation Program if the personal identifying information in
53 the application is protected from public disclosure. The
54 Legislature finds that the harm that may result from the release
55 of such information outweighs the public benefit that may be
56 derived from the disclosure of such information.

57 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that
58 SB 24 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation

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59 is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension
60 thereof and becomes a law.