

By Senator Pizzo

37-01228A-24

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 696.031, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
4 records requirements for certain information provided
5 to a property appraiser as part of a title fraud
6 prevention pilot program; providing for future
7 legislative review and repeal; providing a statement
8 of public necessity; providing a contingent effective
9 date.

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

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13 Section 1. Present subsection (6) of section 696.031,
14 Florida Statutes, as created by SB ___ or similar legislation,
15 2024 Regular Session, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a
16 new subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

17 696.031 Title fraud prevention through sales contract
18 notification services; pilot program.—

19 (6) (a) The name, mailing address, e-mail address, and phone
20 number of a seller submitted to a property appraiser pursuant to
21 this section are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and
22 s. 24(a), Art. I 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25 repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from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 name, mailing address, e-mail address, and
29 phone number of a seller submitted to a property appraiser

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30 pursuant to s. 696.031, Florida Statutes, be made confidential
31 and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes and s. 24(a),
32 Art. I of the State Constitution. The provisions of s. 696.031,
33 Florida Statutes, are created to protect real property owners
34 from fraud in real estate transactions by informing an owner
35 that a contract for the sale or purchase of his or her real
36 estate has been executed. Information required to be provided to
37 the property appraiser pursuant to s. 696.031, Florida Statutes,
38 is of a sensitive, personal nature, and disclosure of such
39 information about a property seller is an invasion of that
40 person's privacy. Making public the private information of a
41 property seller could have a chilling effect on real property
42 sales.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that
44 SB ___ or other similar legislation takes effect, if such
45 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
46 extension thereof and becomes a law.