

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to public records; creating s.  
 3           215.5587, F.S.; providing an exemption from public  
 4           records requirements for applications and home  
 5           inspection reports submitted by applicants to the  
 6           Department of Financial Services as a part of the My  
 7           Safe Florida Home Program; providing retroactive  
 8           applicability; providing for future legislative review  
 9           and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of  
 10          public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

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 14           Section 1.   Section 215.5587, Florida Statutes, is created  
 15   to read:

16           215.5587 My Safe Florida Home Program; public records  
 17   exemption.-

18           (1) Applications and home inspection reports submitted by  
 19   applicants as part of the My Safe Florida Home Program under s.  
 20   215.5586 are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
 21   the State Constitution.

22           (2) This exemption applies retroactively to applications  
 23   and home inspection reports submitted before, on, or after the  
 24   effective date of this exemption.

25           (3) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset

26 Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed  
27 on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from repeal  
28 through reenactment by the Legislature.

29       Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
30 necessity that My Safe Florida Home Program applications and  
31 home inspection reports be made exempt from s. 119.07(1),  
32 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State  
33 Constitution. More than 99 percent of all home inspections and  
34 grant applications are completed electronically or by phone.  
35 Under current law, My Safe Florida Home Program applications and  
36 home inspection reports are public records and can be obtained  
37 by anyone for any purpose. These documents contain personal  
38 information, including, but not limited to, names, e-mail  
39 addresses, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers. This  
40 information is unique to each individual and, when combined with  
41 other personal identifying information, can be used for identity  
42 theft, consumer scams, unwanted solicitations, or other invasive  
43 contact. Additionally, the My Safe Florida Home Program  
44 applications and home inspection reports contain detailed  
45 descriptions and pictures of the inside and outside of  
46 applicants' homes, including private areas, points of entry, and  
47 other vulnerabilities. The public availability of these records  
48 puts participants in the My Safe Florida Home Program at  
49 increased risk of home invasions and reduces privacy in their  
50 homes. Such risk may be significantly limited by making My Safe

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51 | Florida Home Program applications and home inspection reports  
52 | exempt from public record requirements.

53 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.