

By the Committees on Rules; and Banking and Insurance; and  
Senator Martin

595-03108-24

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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 certain information contained  
5 in applications and home inspection reports submitted  
6 by applicants to the Department of Financial Services  
7 as a part of the My Safe Florida Home Program;  
8 providing retroactive applicability; providing for  
9 future legislative review and repeal of the exemption;  
10 providing a statement of public necessity; providing  
11 an effective date.

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

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

17 215.5587 My Safe Florida Home Program; public records  
18 exemption.—

19 (1) All of the following information contained in  
20 applications and home inspection reports submitted by applicants  
21 as part of the My Safe Florida Home Program under s. 215.5586 is  
22 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
23 Constitution:

24 (a) The components of the applicant's mailing address other  
25 than the city and zip code and the applicant's name.

26 (b) Any phone number or e-mail address provided by the  
27 applicant.

28 (c) Detailed descriptions and pictures of the inside and  
29 outside of applicant's homes.

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

33       (3) This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset  
34 Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed  
35 on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from repeal  
36 through reenactment by the Legislature.

37       Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
38 necessity that the following information contained in  
39 applications and home inspection reports submitted by applicants  
40 as part of the My Safe Florida Home Program be made exempt from  
41 s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the  
42 State Constitution: an applicant's name, certain components of  
43 his or her mailing address, an applicant's phone number or e-  
44 mail address, as well as descriptions and pictures of the inside  
45 and outside of an applicant's home. The Legislature further  
46 finds that it is a public necessity that the public records  
47 exemption be applied retroactively. More than 99 percent of all  
48 home inspections and grant applications are completed  
49 electronically or by phone. Under current law, My Safe Florida  
50 Home Program applications and home inspection reports are public  
51 records and can be obtained by anyone for any purpose. This  
52 information is unique to each individual and can be used for  
53 identity theft, consumer scams, unwanted solicitations, or other  
54 invasive contact. Additionally, My Safe Florida Home Program  
55 applications and home inspection reports contain detailed  
56 descriptions and pictures of the inside and outside of  
57 applicants' homes, including private areas, points of entry, and  
58 other vulnerabilities. The public availability of this

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59 information puts participants in the My Safe Florida Home  
60 Program at increased risk of home invasions and reduces privacy  
61 in their homes. These risks may be significantly limited by  
62 making such information contained in My Safe Florida Home  
63 Program applications and home inspection reports exempt from  
64 public records requirements.

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