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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
04/01/2025	.	
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The Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability  
(Burgess) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (5) is added to section 23.44,  
Florida Statutes, as created by SB 1144 or similar legislation,  
2025 Regular Session, to read:

23.44 Hope Florida Office; eligibility to participate;  
duties.—

(5) (a) A participant's personal identifying information



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11 contained in records held by the office or any other agency  
12 designated to participate in the administration of the program  
13 before, on, or after the effective date of this exemption is  
14 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
15 Constitution.

16 (b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government  
17 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand  
18 repealed on October 2, 2030, unless reviewed and saved from  
19 repeal by the Legislature.

20 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
21 necessity to make the personal identifying information of Hope  
22 Florida participants contained in records held by the Office of  
23 Hope Florida or any other agency that participates in the Hope  
24 Florida program exempt from public records requirements. The  
25 Hope Florida program collects personal identifying information  
26 regarding program participants in order to fulfill its mission  
27 to assist and serve Florida residents who are in vulnerable  
28 situations and subject to abuse or exploitation. The Hope  
29 Florida program collects information regarding its participants'  
30 employment status, housing status, domestic situation, and  
31 access to medical care and other basic needs. As such,  
32 information provided would be personal, sensitive information  
33 related to a person's physical or mental health or income  
34 status. Matters of personal health and financial status are  
35 traditionally private concerns, and for this reason, a person's  
36 expectation of a right to privacy regarding these matters  
37 necessitates the exemption. Furthermore, the exemption ensures  
38 the protection of the participant's identity, who may be subject  
39 to abuse or exploitation as a result of his or her vulnerable



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40 situation. If the participant's personal identifying information  
41 were not protected, the program's mission would be significantly  
42 impaired because applicants would be less inclined to  
43 participate if their personal information would be made  
44 available to the public. The Legislature finds that the harm  
45 that may result from the release of such information outweighs  
46 the public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of  
47 the information.

48 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that  
49 SB 1144 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation  
50 is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension  
51 thereof and becomes a law.

52  
53 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

54 And the title is amended as follows:

55 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
56 and insert:

57 A bill to be entitled  
58 An act relating to public records; amending s. 23.44,  
59 F.S.; providing an exemption from public records  
60 requirements for the personal identifying information  
61 of a participant in the Hope Florida program contained  
62 in records held by the Office of Hope Florida or any  
63 other agency designated to participate in the  
64 administering the program; providing retroactive  
65 application; providing for future legislative review  
66 and repeal; providing a statement of public necessity;  
67 providing a contingent effective date.