By Senator Collins

14-00813A-25 20251278

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; amending s. 287.042, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain vendor information held by the Department of Management Services in electronic systems; authorizing the sharing of such information to other governmental entities for a specified purpose; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 287.042, Florida Statutes, as created in SB 1276 or similar legislation, 2025 Regular Session, is amended to read: 287.042 Powers, duties, and functions.—The department shall

have the following powers, duties, and functions: (6)

(c) $\underline{1}$. To grant governmental entities, as defined in s. 287.138, access to electronic systems that provide background information on vendors seeking to do business with the state.

2. Any information about vendors held in electronic systems, which provides background information, along with any related information derived or created from such information, is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, except that the information may be shared with another governmental entity in furtherance of its duties and

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responsibilities without the department waiving such exemption.

This subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset

Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed
on October 2, 2030, unless reviewed and saved from repeal
through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds it a public necessity that information held in the department's electronic systems regarding background information of vendors under s. 287.042, Florida Statutes, and which is contained in certain records be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Protecting the sensitive and proprietary information contained in records created or compiled during selection of vendors seeking to do business with the state is necessary to ensure the integrity of vendor evaluations and legitimacy of procurement decisions. Public disclosure of such information could jeopardize the government's ability to make critical and time-sensitive decisions on issues that impact the safety and security of government operations, including undue influence from foreign countries of concern. The Legislature further finds that the harm that may result from the release of such information significantly outweighs any public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of such information. Therefore, it is a public necessity that this information be made exempt to support the effective monitoring and enforcement of vendor compliance with statutory obligations.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that SB 1276 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.