

By the Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice;
the Committee on Judiciary; and Senators Grall and Yarborough

604-03482-25

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; amending s.
119.0714, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
records requirements for a matter in a pleading, a
request for relief, or other document which has been
stricken by the court in a noncriminal case if the
court makes specific findings; providing a statement
of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (1) of
section 119.0714, Florida Statutes, to read:

119.0714 Court files; court records; official records.—

(1) COURT FILES.—Nothing in this chapter shall be construed
to exempt from s. 119.07(1) a public record that was made a part
of a court file and that is not specifically closed by order of
court, except:

(m) Any matter in a pleading, in a request for relief, or
in any other document which has been stricken by the court in a
noncriminal case pursuant to the rules of court if the court
finds that such matter:

1. Is immaterial, impertinent, or sham; and

2. Would defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good
name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of
an individual.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
necessity that an immaterial, impertinent, or sham matter that
would defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or

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30 reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an
31 individual, and that has been stricken by a court in a
32 noncriminal case, be made confidential and exempt from s.
33 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the
34 State Constitution. The Legislature finds that such stricken
35 matters, if they remain in the public record, cause unwarranted
36 and ongoing harm to affected persons and serve no identifiable
37 public purpose. The Legislature further finds that the harm that
38 may result from the release of such stricken matters outweighs
39 any public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of
40 the stricken matter.

41 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.