



307372

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

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

**Senate Substitute for Amendment (741522) (with title  
amendment)**

Delete lines 357 - 461  
and insert:

3.a. An agency that is the custodian of the information  
specified in subparagraph 2. and that is not the employer of the  
officer, employee, justice, judge, or other person specified in  
subparagraph 2. must maintain the exempt status of that  
information only if the officer, employee, justice, judge, other



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person, or employing agency of the designated employee submits a written and notarized request for maintenance of the exemption to the custodial agency. The request must state under oath the statutory basis for the individual's exemption request and confirm the individual's status as a party eligible for exempt status.

b. An agency that is the custodian of information specified in sub-subparagraph 2.y. and that is not the employer of the current appellate or circuit court clerk, current deputy clerk of an appellate of circuit court, or clerk of the appellate and circuit courts personnel, his or her spouse, or his or her child, must maintain the exempt status of that information only while the qualifying conditions for the exemption apply. The person who qualifies for an exemption pursuant to sub-subparagraph 2.y, must submit a written and notarized letter to a non-employing custodial agency that holds information specified in sub-subparagraph 2.y. of the current appellate or circuit court clerk, current deputy clerk of an appellate of circuit court, or clerk of the appellate and circuit courts personnel, his or her spouse, or his or her child, notifying it of the cessation of his or her qualification for the exemption.

4.a. A county property appraiser, as defined in s. 192.001(3), or a county tax collector, as defined in s. 192.001(4), who receives a written and notarized request for maintenance of the exemption pursuant to subparagraph 3. must comply by removing the name of the individual with exempt status and the instrument number or Official Records book and page number identifying the property with the exempt status from all publicly available records maintained by the property appraiser



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or tax collector. For written requests received on or before July 1, 2021, a county property appraiser or county tax collector must comply with this sub-subparagraph by October 1, 2021. A county property appraiser or county tax collector may not remove the street address, legal description, or other information identifying real property within the agency's records so long as a name or personal information otherwise exempt from inspection and copying pursuant to this section is not associated with the property or otherwise displayed in the public records of the agency.

b. Any information restricted from public display, inspection, or copying under sub-subparagraph a. must be provided to the individual whose information was removed.

5. An officer, an employee, a justice, a judge, or other person specified in subparagraph 2. may submit a written request for the release of his or her exempt information to the custodial agency. The written request must be notarized and must specify the information to be released and the party authorized to receive the information. Upon receipt of the written request, the custodial agency must release the specified information to the party authorized to receive such information.

6. The exemptions in this paragraph apply to information held by an agency before, on, or after the effective date of the exemption.

7. Information made exempt under this paragraph may be disclosed pursuant to s. 28.2221 to a title insurer authorized pursuant to s. 624.401 and its affiliates as defined in s. 624.10; a title insurance agent or title insurance agency as defined in s. 626.841(1) or (2), respectively; or an attorney



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duly admitted to practice law in this state and in good standing with The Florida Bar.

8. The exempt status of a home address contained in the Official Records is maintained only during the period when a protected party resides at the dwelling location. Upon conveyance of real property after October 1, 2021, and when such real property no longer constitutes a protected party's home address as defined in sub-subparagraph 1.b. ~~1.a.~~, the protected party must submit a written request to release the removed information to the county recorder. The written request to release the removed information must be notarized, must confirm that a protected party's request for release is pursuant to a conveyance of his or her dwelling location, and must specify the Official Records book and page, instrument number, or clerk's file number for each document containing the information to be released.

9. Upon the death of a protected party as verified by a certified copy of a death certificate or court order, any party can request the county recorder to release a protected decedent's removed information unless there is a related request on file with the county recorder for continued removal of the decedent's information or unless such removal is otherwise prohibited by statute or by court order. The written request to release the removed information upon the death of a protected party must attach the certified copy of a death certificate or court order and must be notarized, must confirm the request for release is due to the death of a protected party, and must specify the Official Records book and page number, instrument number, or clerk's file number for each document containing the



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information to be released. A fee may not be charged for the release of any document pursuant to such request.

Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 744.21031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

744.21031 Public records exemption.—

(1) For purposes of this section, the term:

(c) "Telephone numbers" has the same meaning as provided in s. 119.071(4)(d)1.d. ~~s. 119.071(4)(d)1.e.~~

Section 3. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current appellate court clerks, deputy clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of such appellate court clerks, deputy clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such appellate court clerks, deputy clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel, be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. While performing their duties to issue court orders, maintain case dockets, answer telephone calls, respond to correspondence, and interact with visitors to the courthouse, appellate court clerks, deputy clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel, may incur the ill will of litigants and their associates and families. As a result, current appellate court clerks, deputy clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel, and their spouses and children may be targets for acts of revenge. If such identifying and location information is



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released, the safety of current appellate court clerks, deputy  
clerks, and clerk of the appellate court personnel, and their  
spouses and children could be seriously jeopardized. For this  
reason, the Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that  
such information be made exempt from public records  
requirements.

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

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 9

and insert:

the exemption; providing a method for maintenance of  
an exemption; providing for retroactive application