

By Senator Rouson

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to public records; amending s.  
3       119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public  
4       records requirements for the personal identifying and  
5       location information of current and former employees  
6       of the Judicial Qualifications Commission and the  
7       personal identifying and location information of the  
8       spouses and children of such employees; providing for  
9       legislative review and repeal of the exemption;  
10      providing for retroactive application of the  
11      exemption; providing a statement of public necessity;  
12      providing an effective date.

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

15  
16       Section 1. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section  
17       119.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

18       119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of  
19       public records.—

20       (4) AGENCY PERSONNEL INFORMATION.—

21       (d)1. For purposes of this paragraph, the term:

22       a. "Home addresses" means the dwelling location at which an  
23       individual resides and includes the physical address, mailing  
24       address, street address, parcel identification number, plot  
25       identification number, legal property description, neighborhood  
26       name and lot number, GPS coordinates, and any other descriptive  
27       property information that may reveal the home address.

28       b. "Judicial assistant" means a court employee assigned to  
29       the following class codes: 8140, 8150, 8310, and 8320.

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30 c. "Telephone numbers" includes home telephone numbers,  
31 personal cellular telephone numbers, personal pager telephone  
32 numbers, and telephone numbers associated with personal  
33 communications devices.

34 2.a. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
35 and photographs of active or former sworn law enforcement  
36 personnel or of active or former civilian personnel employed by  
37 a law enforcement agency, including correctional and  
38 correctional probation officers, personnel of the Department of  
39 Children and Families whose duties include the investigation of  
40 abuse, neglect, exploitation, fraud, theft, or other criminal  
41 activities, personnel of the Department of Health whose duties  
42 are to support the investigation of child abuse or neglect, and  
43 personnel of the Department of Revenue or local governments  
44 whose responsibilities include revenue collection and  
45 enforcement or child support enforcement; the names, home  
46 addresses, telephone numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and  
47 places of employment of the spouses and children of such  
48 personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care  
49 facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt  
50 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
51 Constitution.

52 b. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
53 and photographs of current or former nonsworn investigative  
54 personnel of the Department of Financial Services whose duties  
55 include the investigation of fraud, theft, workers' compensation  
56 coverage requirements and compliance, other related criminal  
57 activities, or state regulatory requirement violations; the  
58 names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and

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59 places of employment of the spouses and children of such  
60 personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care  
61 facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt  
62 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
63 Constitution.

64 c. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
65 and photographs of current or former nonsworn investigative  
66 personnel of the Office of Financial Regulation's Bureau of  
67 Financial Investigations whose duties include the investigation  
68 of fraud, theft, other related criminal activities, or state  
69 regulatory requirement violations; the names, home addresses,  
70 telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of  
71 the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and  
72 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
73 children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
74 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

75 d. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
76 and photographs of current or former firefighters certified in  
77 compliance with s. 633.408; the names, home addresses, telephone  
78 numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment  
79 of the spouses and children of such firefighters; and the names  
80 and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
81 children of such firefighters are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and  
82 s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

83 e. The home addresses, dates of birth, and telephone  
84 numbers of current or former justices of the Supreme Court,  
85 district court of appeal judges, circuit court judges, and  
86 county court judges and current judicial assistants; the names,  
87 home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of

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88 employment of the spouses and children of current or former  
89 justices and judges and current judicial assistants; and the  
90 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended  
91 by the children of current or former justices and judges and  
92 current judicial assistants are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
93 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph  
94 is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in  
95 accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2,  
96 2028, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment  
97 by the Legislature.

98 f. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
99 and photographs of current or former state attorneys, assistant  
100 state attorneys, statewide prosecutors, or assistant statewide  
101 prosecutors; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,  
102 photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the  
103 spouses and children of current or former state attorneys,  
104 assistant state attorneys, statewide prosecutors, or assistant  
105 statewide prosecutors; and the names and locations of schools  
106 and day care facilities attended by the children of current or  
107 former state attorneys, assistant state attorneys, statewide  
108 prosecutors, or assistant statewide prosecutors are exempt from  
109 s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

110 g. The home addresses, dates of birth, and telephone  
111 numbers of general magistrates, special magistrates, judges of  
112 compensation claims, administrative law judges of the Division  
113 of Administrative Hearings, and child support enforcement  
114 hearing officers; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,  
115 dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and  
116 children of general magistrates, special magistrates, judges of

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117 compensation claims, administrative law judges of the Division  
118 of Administrative Hearings, and child support enforcement  
119 hearing officers; and the names and locations of schools and day  
120 care facilities attended by the children of general magistrates,  
121 special magistrates, judges of compensation claims,  
122 administrative law judges of the Division of Administrative  
123 Hearings, and child support enforcement hearing officers are  
124 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
125 Constitution.

126 h. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
127 and photographs of current or former human resource, labor  
128 relations, or employee relations directors, assistant directors,  
129 managers, or assistant managers of any local government agency  
130 or water management district whose duties include hiring and  
131 firing employees, labor contract negotiation, administration, or  
132 other personnel-related duties; the names, home addresses,  
133 telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of  
134 the spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and  
135 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
136 children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
137 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

138 i. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
139 and photographs of current or former code enforcement officers;  
140 the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
141 and places of employment of the spouses and children of such  
142 personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care  
143 facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt  
144 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
145 Constitution.

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146           j. The home addresses, telephone numbers, places of  
147 employment, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former  
148 guardians ad litem, as defined in s. 39.01; the names, home  
149 addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of  
150 employment of the spouses and children of such persons; and the  
151 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended  
152 by the children of such persons are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and  
153 s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

154           k. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
155 and photographs of current or former juvenile probation  
156 officers, juvenile probation supervisors, detention  
157 superintendents, assistant detention superintendents, juvenile  
158 justice detention officers I and II, juvenile justice detention  
159 officer supervisors, juvenile justice residential officers,  
160 juvenile justice residential officer supervisors I and II,  
161 juvenile justice counselors, juvenile justice counselor  
162 supervisors, human services counselor administrators, senior  
163 human services counselor administrators, rehabilitation  
164 therapists, and social services counselors of the Department of  
165 Juvenile Justice; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,  
166 dates of birth, and places of employment of spouses and children  
167 of such personnel; and the names and locations of schools and  
168 day care facilities attended by the children of such personnel  
169 are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
170 Constitution.

171           l. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
172 and photographs of current or former public defenders, assistant  
173 public defenders, criminal conflict and civil regional counsel,  
174 and assistant criminal conflict and civil regional counsel; the

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175 names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and  
176 places of employment of the spouses and children of current or  
177 former public defenders, assistant public defenders, criminal  
178 conflict and civil regional counsel, and assistant criminal  
179 conflict and civil regional counsel; and the names and locations  
180 of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of  
181 current or former public defenders, assistant public defenders,  
182 criminal conflict and civil regional counsel, and assistant  
183 criminal conflict and civil regional counsel are exempt from s.  
184 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

185 m. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
186 and photographs of current or former investigators or inspectors  
187 of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; the  
188 names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and  
189 places of employment of the spouses and children of such current  
190 or former investigators and inspectors; and the names and  
191 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
192 children of such current or former investigators and inspectors  
193 are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
194 Constitution.

195 n. The home addresses, telephone numbers, and dates of  
196 birth of county tax collectors; the names, home addresses,  
197 telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of  
198 the spouses and children of such tax collectors; and the names  
199 and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
200 children of such tax collectors are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and  
201 s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

202 o. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
203 and photographs of current or former personnel of the Department

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204 of Health whose duties include, or result in, the determination  
205 or adjudication of eligibility for social security disability  
206 benefits, the investigation or prosecution of complaints filed  
207 against health care practitioners, or the inspection of health  
208 care practitioners or health care facilities licensed by the  
209 Department of Health; the names, home addresses, telephone  
210 numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses  
211 and children of such personnel; and the names and locations of  
212 schools and day care facilities attended by the children of such  
213 personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
214 the State Constitution.

215 p. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
216 and photographs of current or former impaired practitioner  
217 consultants who are retained by an agency or current or former  
218 employees of an impaired practitioner consultant whose duties  
219 result in a determination of a person's skill and safety to  
220 practice a licensed profession; the names, home addresses,  
221 telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of  
222 the spouses and children of such consultants or their employees;  
223 and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities  
224 attended by the children of such consultants or employees are  
225 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
226 Constitution.

227 q. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
228 and photographs of current or former emergency medical  
229 technicians or paramedics certified under chapter 401; the  
230 names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and  
231 places of employment of the spouses and children of such  
232 emergency medical technicians or paramedics; and the names and



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233 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
234 children of such emergency medical technicians or paramedics are  
235 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
236 Constitution.

237 r. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
238 and photographs of current or former personnel employed in an  
239 agency's office of inspector general or internal audit  
240 department whose duties include auditing or investigating waste,  
241 fraud, abuse, theft, exploitation, or other activities that  
242 could lead to criminal prosecution or administrative discipline;  
243 the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
244 and places of employment of spouses and children of such  
245 personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care  
246 facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt  
247 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
248 Constitution.

249 s. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
250 and photographs of current or former directors, managers,  
251 supervisors, nurses, and clinical employees of an addiction  
252 treatment facility; the home addresses, telephone numbers,  
253 photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the  
254 spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and  
255 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
256 children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
257 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. For purposes of this  
258 sub-subparagraph, the term "addiction treatment facility" means  
259 a county government, or agency thereof, that is licensed  
260 pursuant to s. 397.401 and provides substance abuse prevention,  
261 intervention, or clinical treatment, including any licensed

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262 service component described in s. 397.311(27).

263 t. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
264 and photographs of current or former directors, managers,  
265 supervisors, and clinical employees of a child advocacy center  
266 that meets the standards of s. 39.3035(2) and fulfills the  
267 screening requirement of s. 39.3035(3), and the members of a  
268 Child Protection Team as described in s. 39.303 whose duties  
269 include supporting the investigation of child abuse or sexual  
270 abuse, child abandonment, child neglect, and child exploitation  
271 or to provide services as part of a multidisciplinary case  
272 review team; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,  
273 photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the  
274 spouses and children of such personnel and members; and the  
275 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended  
276 by the children of such personnel and members are exempt from s.  
277 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

278 u. The home addresses, telephone numbers, places of  
279 employment, dates of birth, and photographs of current or former  
280 staff and domestic violence advocates, as defined in s.  
281 90.5036(1)(b), of domestic violence centers certified by the  
282 Department of Children and Families under chapter 39; the names,  
283 home addresses, telephone numbers, places of employment, dates  
284 of birth, and photographs of the spouses and children of such  
285 personnel; and the names and locations of schools and day care  
286 facilities attended by the children of such personnel are exempt  
287 from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
288 Constitution.

289 v. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
290 and photographs of current or former inspectors or investigators

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291 of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the  
292 names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and  
293 places of employment of the spouses and children of current or  
294 former inspectors or investigators; and the names and locations  
295 of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of  
296 current or former inspectors or investigators are exempt from s.  
297 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This  
298 sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review  
299 Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on  
300 October 2, 2028, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through  
301 reenactment by the Legislature.

302 w. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
303 and photographs of current county attorneys, assistant county  
304 attorneys, deputy county attorneys, city attorneys, assistant  
305 city attorneys, and deputy city attorneys; the names, home  
306 addresses, telephone numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and  
307 places of employment of the spouses and children of current  
308 county attorneys, assistant county attorneys, deputy county  
309 attorneys, city attorneys, assistant city attorneys, and deputy  
310 city attorneys; and the names and locations of schools and day  
311 care facilities attended by the children of current county  
312 attorneys, assistant county attorneys, deputy county attorneys,  
313 city attorneys, assistant city attorneys, and deputy city  
314 attorneys are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
315 the State Constitution. This exemption does not apply to a  
316 county attorney, assistant county attorney, deputy county  
317 attorney, city attorney, assistant city attorney, or deputy city  
318 attorney who qualifies as a candidate for election to public  
319 office. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government

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320 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand  
321 repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from  
322 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

323       x. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
324 and photographs of current or former commissioners of the  
325 Florida Gaming Control Commission; the names, home addresses,  
326 telephone numbers, dates of birth, photographs, and places of  
327 employment of the spouses and children of such current or former  
328 commissioners; and the names and locations of schools and day  
329 care facilities attended by the children of such current or  
330 former commissioners are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a),  
331 Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph is  
332 subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance  
333 with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029,  
334 unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
335 Legislature.

336       y. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
337 and photographs of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy  
338 clerks of the circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court  
339 personnel; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates  
340 of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children  
341 of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy clerks of the  
342 circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court personnel; and the  
343 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended  
344 by the children of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy  
345 clerks of the circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court  
346 personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of  
347 the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the  
348 Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15

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349 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and  
350 saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

351 z. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,  
352 and photographs of current and former employees of the Judicial  
353 Qualifications Commission; the names, home addresses, telephone  
354 numbers, dates of birth, photographs, and places of employment  
355 of the spouses and children of current and former employees of  
356 the Judicial Qualifications Commission; and the names and  
357 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the  
358 children of current and former employees of the Judicial  
359 Qualifications Commission are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
360 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph  
361 is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in  
362 accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2,  
363 2030, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment  
364 by the Legislature.

365 3. An agency that is the custodian of the information  
366 specified in subparagraph 2. and that is not the employer of the  
367 officer, employee, justice, judge, or other person specified in  
368 subparagraph 2. must maintain the exempt status of that  
369 information only if the officer, employee, justice, judge, other  
370 person, or employing agency of the designated employee submits a  
371 written and notarized request for maintenance of the exemption  
372 to the custodial agency. The request must state under oath the  
373 statutory basis for the individual's exemption request and  
374 confirm the individual's status as a party eligible for exempt  
375 status.

376 4.a. A county property appraiser, as defined in s.  
377 192.001(3), or a county tax collector, as defined in s.

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378 192.001(4), who receives a written and notarized request for  
379 maintenance of the exemption pursuant to subparagraph 3. must  
380 comply by removing the name of the individual with exempt status  
381 and the instrument number or Official Records book and page  
382 number identifying the property with the exempt status from all  
383 publicly available records maintained by the property appraiser  
384 or tax collector. For written requests received on or before  
385 July 1, 2021, a county property appraiser or county tax  
386 collector must comply with this sub-subparagraph by October 1,  
387 2021. A county property appraiser or county tax collector may  
388 not remove the street address, legal description, or other  
389 information identifying real property within the agency's  
390 records so long as a name or personal information otherwise  
391 exempt from inspection and copying pursuant to this section is  
392 not associated with the property or otherwise displayed in the  
393 public records of the agency.

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

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

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

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407 exemption.

408 7. Information made exempt under this paragraph may be  
409 disclosed pursuant to s. 28.2221 to a title insurer authorized  
410 pursuant to s. 624.401 and its affiliates as defined in s.  
411 624.10; a title insurance agent or title insurance agency as  
412 defined in s. 626.841(1) or (2), respectively; or an attorney  
413 duly admitted to practice law in this state and in good standing  
414 with The Florida Bar.

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

429 9. Upon the death of a protected party as verified by a  
430 certified copy of a death certificate or court order, any party  
431 can request the county recorder to release a protected  
432 decedent's removed information unless there is a related request  
433 on file with the county recorder for continued removal of the  
434 decedent's information or unless such removal is otherwise  
435 prohibited by statute or by court order. The written request to

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436 release the removed information upon the death of a protected  
437 party must attach the certified copy of a death certificate or  
438 court order and must be notarized, must confirm the request for  
439 release is due to the death of a protected party, and must  
440 specify the Official Records book and page number, instrument  
441 number, or clerk's file number for each document containing the  
442 information to be released. A fee may not be charged for the  
443 release of any document pursuant to such request.

444       Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
445 necessity that the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of  
446 birth, and photographs of current or former employees of the  
447 Judicial Qualifications Commission; the names, home addresses,  
448 telephone numbers, dates of birth, photographs, and places of  
449 employment of the spouses and children of current or former  
450 employees of the Judicial Qualifications Commission; and the  
451 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended  
452 by the children of current or former employees of the Judicial  
453 Qualifications Commission be made exempt from s. 119.07(1),  
454 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State  
455 Constitution. The responsibilities of the Judicial  
456 Qualifications Commission include the investigation of  
457 allegations of judicial misconduct which are routinely received  
458 from criminal and civil litigants who are dissatisfied with  
459 adverse results in judicial proceedings. When the commission,  
460 after review and investigation of such complaints, does not  
461 discipline a judge or does not take the complainant's preferred  
462 course of action against a judge, dissatisfied litigants  
463 sometimes turn their ire toward commission employees as part of  
464 their campaign against the actions of the judge in the



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465 underlying litigation. Employees of the commission have been  
466 subject to acts of intimidation by such dissatisfied litigants,  
467 including online doxing of staff members, posting of false and  
468 defamatory statements concerning employees on social media,  
469 threatening e-mails and telephone calls, and inappropriate  
470 contact regarding commission affairs at the personal residences  
471 of employees and employees' family members. These acts of  
472 intimidation have commission employees in fear of harm by  
473 disgruntled litigants who seek punishment of judges by the  
474 commission for unfavorable litigation results. The Legislature  
475 finds that the release of personal identifying and location  
476 information of current or former employees of the Judicial  
477 Qualifications Commission and their family members may place  
478 them at risk of physical harm and harassment and that the risk  
479 of such harm and harassment outweighs any public benefit that  
480 may be derived from the public disclosure of such information.

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