

By Senator Rodriguez

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public records; amending s. 11.92,
F.S.; providing a public records exemption for
correspondence and communications with the Office of
the Corrections Ombudsman and the Corrections
Oversight Committee; providing a statement of public
necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (8) through (10) of section 11.92,
Florida Statutes, as created by SB ____, 2026 Regular Session,
are renumbered as subsections (9) through (11), respectively,
and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

11.92 Office of the Corrections Ombudsman.—

(8) Correspondence and communications between incarcerated
persons or the public and the office, the Ombudsman, the members
of the committee, and office staff are confidential and exempt
from s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
necessity that correspondence and communications with the Office
of the Corrections Ombudsman and the Corrections Oversight
Committee be made confidential and exempt from s. 24(a), Article
I of the State Constitution. Public disclosure of such
correspondence and communications could jeopardize the safety of
incarcerated persons. It is essential to the functioning of the
office that incarcerated persons and the public feel free to
communicate with the office concerning conditions in and
operations of correctional facilities. The public records

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exemption is necessary to protect incarcerated persons from
retaliation by correctional officers who are under investigation
as a result of communications with the office.

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