

By Senator Rodriguez

40-01511A-26

20261546

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public records; amending s. 119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for the personal identifying and location information of current and former employees and commissioners of the Commission on Ethics and their spouses and dependents; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing for retroactive application of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

(4) AGENCY PERSONNEL INFORMATION.—

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

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

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

c. "Telephone numbers" includes home telephone numbers,

40-01511A-26

20261546

30 personal cellular telephone numbers, personal pager telephone
31 numbers, and telephone numbers associated with personal
32 communications devices.

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

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

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

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

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

145 j. The home addresses, telephone numbers, places of

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

201 o. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
202 and photographs of current or former personnel of the Department
203 of Health whose duties include, or result in, the determination

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

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

40-01511A-26

20261546

233 children of such emergency medical technicians or paramedics are
234 exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State
235 Constitution.

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

248 s. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
249 and photographs of current or former directors, managers,
250 supervisors, nurses, and clinical employees of an addiction
251 treatment facility; the home addresses, telephone numbers,
252 photographs, dates of birth, and places of employment of the
253 spouses and children of such personnel; and the names and
254 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the
255 children of such personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
256 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. For purposes of this
257 sub subparagraph, the term "addiction treatment facility" means
258 a county government, or agency thereof, that is licensed
259 pursuant to s. 397.401 and provides substance abuse prevention,
260 intervention, or clinical treatment, including any licensed
261 service component described in s. 397.311(27).

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

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

288 v. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
289 and photographs of current or former inspectors or investigators
290 of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the

40-01511A-26

20261546

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

301 w. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
302 and photographs of current county attorneys, assistant county
303 attorneys, deputy county attorneys, city attorneys, assistant
304 city attorneys, and deputy city attorneys; the names, home
305 addresses, telephone numbers, photographs, dates of birth, and
306 places of employment of the spouses and children of current
307 county attorneys, assistant county attorneys, deputy county
308 attorneys, city attorneys, assistant city attorneys, and deputy
309 city attorneys; and the names and locations of schools and day
310 care facilities attended by the children of current county
311 attorneys, assistant county attorneys, deputy county attorneys,
312 city attorneys, assistant city attorneys, and deputy city
313 attorneys are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of
314 the State Constitution. This exemption does not apply to a
315 county attorney, assistant county attorney, deputy county
316 attorney, city attorney, assistant city attorney, or deputy city
317 attorney who qualifies as a candidate for election to public
318 office. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open Government
319 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand

40-01511A-26

20261546

320 repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from
321 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

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

335 y. The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
336 and photographs of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy
337 clerks of the circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court
338 personnel; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates
339 of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children
340 of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy clerks of the
341 circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court personnel; and the
342 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended
343 by the children of current clerks of the circuit court, deputy
344 clerks of the circuit court, and clerk of the circuit court
345 personnel are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of
346 the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph is subject to the
347 Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15
348 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and

40-01511A-26

20261546

349 saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

350 z.(I) As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term:

351 (A) "Congressional member" means a person who is elected to
352 serve as a member of the United States House of Representatives
353 or is elected or appointed to serve as a member of the United
354 States Senate.

355 (B) "Partial home address" means the dwelling location at
356 which an individual resides and includes the physical address,
357 mailing address, street address, parcel identification number,
358 plot identification number, legal property description,
359 neighborhood name and lot number, GPS coordinates, and any other
360 descriptive property information that may reveal the partial
361 home address, except for the city and zip code.

362 (C) "Public officer" means a person who holds one of the
363 following offices: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Chief
364 Financial Officer, Attorney General, Agriculture Commissioner,
365 state representative, state senator, property appraiser,
366 supervisor of elections, school superintendent, school board
367 member, mayor, city commissioner, or county commissioner.

368 (II) The following information is exempt from s. 119.07(1)
369 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

370 (A) The partial home addresses of a current congressional
371 member or public officer and his or her spouse or adult child.

372 (B) The telephone numbers of a current congressional member
373 or public officer and his or her spouse or adult child.

374 (C) The name, home addresses, telephone numbers, and date
375 of birth of a minor child of a current congressional member or
376 public officer and the name and location of the school or day
377 care facility attended by the minor child.

40-01511A-26

20261546

378 (III) This sub-subparagraph is subject to the Open
379 Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and
380 shall stand repealed on October 2, 2030, unless reviewed and
381 saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

382 aa. The home addresses, telephone numbers, and dates of
383 birth of current and former employees and commissioners of the
384 Commission on Ethics; the names, home addresses, telephone
385 numbers, dates of birth, photographs, and places of employment
386 of the spouses and children of current and former employees and
387 commissioners of the Commission on Ethics; and the names and
388 locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the
389 children of current and former employees and commissioners of
390 the Commission on Ethics are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
391 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This sub-subparagraph
392 is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in
393 accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2,
394 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment
395 by the Legislature.

396 3.a. An agency that is the custodian of the information
397 specified in subparagraph 2. and that is not the employer of the
398 officer, employee, justice, judge, or other person specified in
399 subparagraph 2. must maintain the exempt status of that
400 information only if the officer, employee, justice, judge, other
401 person, or employing agency of the designated employee submits a
402 written and notarized request for maintenance of the exemption
403 to the custodial agency. The request must state under oath the
404 statutory basis for the individual's exemption request and
405 confirm the individual's status as a party eligible for exempt
406 status.

40-01511A-26

20261546

407 b. An agency that is the custodian of information specified
408 in sub subparagraph 2.z. and that is not the employer of the
409 congressional member, public officer, or other person specified
410 in sub subparagraph 2.z. must maintain the exempt status of that
411 information only if an individual requests the maintenance of an
412 exemption pursuant to sub subparagraph 2.z. on the basis of
413 eligibility as a current congressional member or public officer
414 and his or her spouse or child submits, as part of the written
415 and notarized request required by sub subparagraph a., the date
416 of the congressional member's or public officer's election or
417 appointment to public office, the date on which that office is
418 next subject to election, and, if applicable, the date on which
419 the current congressional member's or public officer's minor
420 child reaches the age of majority. The custodian must maintain
421 an exemption granted pursuant to sub subparagraph 2.z. until the
422 qualifying conditions for the exemption no longer apply to the
423 person subject to the exemption.

424 4.a. A county property appraiser, as defined in s.
425 192.001(3), or a county tax collector, as defined in s.
426 192.001(4), who receives a written and notarized request for
427 maintenance of the exemption pursuant to subparagraph 3. must
428 comply by removing the name of the individual with exempt status
429 and the instrument number or Official Records book and page
430 number identifying the property with the exempt status from all
431 publicly available records maintained by the property appraiser
432 or tax collector. For written requests received on or before
433 July 1, 2021, a county property appraiser or county tax
434 collector must comply with this sub subparagraph by October 1,
435 2021. A county property appraiser or county tax collector may

40-01511A-26

20261546

436 not remove the street address, legal description, or other
437 information identifying real property within the agency's
438 records so long as a name or personal information otherwise
439 exempt from inspection and copying pursuant to this section is
440 not associated with the property or otherwise displayed in the
441 public records of the agency.

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

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

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

456 7. Information made exempt under this paragraph may be
457 disclosed pursuant to s. 28.2221 to a title insurer authorized
458 pursuant to s. 624.401 and its affiliates as defined in s.
459 624.10; a title insurance agent or title insurance agency as
460 defined in s. 626.841(1) or (2), respectively; or an attorney
461 duly admitted to practice law in this state and in good standing
462 with The Florida Bar.

463 8. The exempt status of a home address contained in the
464 Official Records is maintained only during the period when a

40-01511A-26

20261546

465 protected party resides at the dwelling location. Upon
466 conveyance of real property after October 1, 2021, and when such
467 real property no longer constitutes a protected party's home
468 address as defined in sub-subparagraph 1.a., the protected party
469 must submit a written request to release the removed information
470 to the county recorder. The written request to release the
471 removed information must be notarized, must confirm that a
472 protected party's request for release is pursuant to a
473 conveyance of his or her dwelling location, and must specify the
474 Official Records book and page, instrument number, or clerk's
475 file number for each document containing the information to be
476 released.

477 9. Upon the death of a protected party as verified by a
478 certified copy of a death certificate or court order, any party
479 can request the county recorder to release a protected
480 decedent's removed information unless there is a related request
481 on file with the county recorder for continued removal of the
482 decedent's information or unless such removal is otherwise
483 prohibited by statute or by court order. The written request to
484 release the removed information upon the death of a protected
485 party must attach the certified copy of a death certificate or
486 court order and must be notarized, must confirm the request for
487 release is due to the death of a protected party, and must
488 specify the Official Records book and page number, instrument
489 number, or clerk's file number for each document containing the
490 information to be released. A fee may not be charged for the
491 release of any document pursuant to such request.

492 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
493 necessity that the home addresses, telephone numbers, and dates

40-01511A-26

20261546

494 of birth of current or former employees and current or former
495 commissioners of the Commission on Ethics; the names, home
496 addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, photographs, and
497 places of employment of the spouses and children of current or
498 former employees and current or former commissioners of the
499 Commission on Ethics; and the names and locations of schools and
500 day care facilities attended by the children of current or
501 former employees and current or former commissioners of the
502 Commission on Ethics be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida
503 Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. The
504 responsibilities of the Commission on Ethics include the
505 investigation of allegations of violations of the Code of Ethics
506 for Public Officers and Employees and the Sunshine Amendment,
507 which are routinely received from members of the public and
508 political opponents of public officers and employees. If the
509 commission, after review of such complaints, does not take a
510 particular course of action against a public officer or
511 employee, dissatisfied complainants sometimes turn their ire
512 toward commission employees and commissioners. Although the
513 Commission on Ethics is a nonpartisan agency, many view the
514 commission's actions as inherently political. In an era of
515 increased political violence, the safety of commission employees
516 and commissioners, as well as their family members, is critical.
517 Employees of the commission and commissioners have been subject
518 to acts of intimidation by such dissatisfied complainants,
519 including threatening e-mails and telephone calls and threats of
520 inappropriate contact at personal residences. These acts of
521 intimidation have left commission employees and commissioners in
522 fear of harm by disgruntled complainants who seek punishment of

40-01511A-26

20261546

523 public officers and employees by the commission for alleged
524 corrupt acts. The Legislature finds that the release of personal
525 identifying and location information of current or former
526 employees and commissioners of the Commission on Ethics and
527 their family members may place them at risk of physical harm and
528 harassment and that the risk of such harm and harassment
529 outweighs any public benefit that may be derived from the public
530 disclosure of such information.

531 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.