

By the Committee on Commerce and Tourism; and Senator Truenow

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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 private
investigators licensed by the Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services and the spouses and
children of such private investigators; providing for
future legislative review and repeal of the exemption;
providing for retroactive application; providing a
statement of public necessity; providing an effective
date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (1) is added to subsection (5) of
section 119.071, Florida Statutes, to read:

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

(5) OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION.—

(1) The home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
and photographs of current and former private investigators
licensed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth,
and places of employment of the spouses and children of current
and former private investigators licensed by the Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services; and the names and locations
of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of
current and former private investigators licensed by the

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Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and photographs of current and former private investigators licensed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and children of current and former private investigators licensed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and the names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of current and former private investigators licensed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Private investigators routinely engage in sensitive work that may involve uncovering fraud, locating missing persons, or assisting in criminal and civil matters. In the course of their duties, private investigators often interact with individuals who have strong motives to retaliate or cause harm. Public access to a private investigator's home address or personal information could expose private investigators and their families to threats, harassment, stalking, or physical violence. Protecting this information does not diminish transparency or accountability in government but instead balances the public's

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59 right to access records with this state's compelling interest in
60 safeguarding the personal safety of those who provide critical
61 private investigative services. Therefore, exempting such
62 information from public records requirements is a reasonable and
63 necessary measure to ensure the security and privacy of private
64 investigators and their families while preserving the integrity
65 of this state's public records system.

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