

CS/HB 661

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public records; amending s. 119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public record 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 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

26 Agriculture and Consumer Services; and the names and locations
27 of schools and day care facilities attended by the children of
28 current and former private investigators licensed by the
29 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services are exempt from
30 s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
31 This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review
32 Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on
33 October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through
34 reenactment by the Legislature.

35 **Section 2.** The Legislature finds that it is a public
36 necessity that the home addresses, telephone numbers, dates of
37 birth, and photographs of current and former private
38 investigators licensed by the Department of Agriculture and
39 Consumer Services; the names, home addresses, telephone numbers,
40 dates of birth, and places of employment of the spouses and
41 children of current and former private investigators licensed by
42 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; and the
43 names and locations of schools and day care facilities attended
44 by the children of current and former private investigators
45 licensed by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
46 be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s.
47 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Private
48 investigators routinely engage in sensitive work that may
49 involve uncovering fraud, locating missing persons, or assisting
50 in criminal and civil matters. In the course of their duties,

CS/HB 661

2026

51 private investigators often interact with individuals who have
52 strong motives to retaliate or cause harm. Public access to a
53 private investigator's home address or personal information
54 could expose private investigators and their families to
55 threats, harassment, stalking, or physical violence. Protecting
56 this information does not diminish transparency or
57 accountability in government but instead balances the public's
58 right to access records with this state's compelling interest in
59 safeguarding the personal safety of those who provide critical
60 private investigative services. Therefore, exempting such
61 information from public records requirements is a reasonable and
62 necessary measure to ensure the security and privacy of private
63 investigators and their families while preserving the integrity
64 of this state's public records system.

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