

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to public records; amending s. 11.92,  
3       F.S.; providing a public records exemption for  
4       correspondence and communications with the Office of  
5       the Corrections Ombudsman and the Corrections  
6       Oversight Committee; providing for future review and  
7       repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of  
8       public necessity; providing a contingent effective  
9       date.

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

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13       **Section 1. Subsections (8) through (10) of section 11.92,**  
14   **Florida Statutes, as created by HB 889, 2026 Regular Session,**  
15   **are renumbered as subsections (9) through (11), respectively,**  
16   **and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:**

17       11.92 Office of the Corrections Ombudsman.—

18       (8)(a) Correspondence and communications between  
19   incarcerated persons or the public and the office, the  
20   Ombudsman, the members of the committee, and office staff are  
21   confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I  
22   of the State Constitution.

23       (b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government  
24   Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and is repealed  
25   on October 2, 2031, unless reviewed and saved from repeal

26   through reenactment by the Legislature.

27        **Section 2.** The Legislature finds that it is a public  
28 necessity that correspondence and communications with the Office  
29 of the Corrections Ombudsman and the Corrections Oversight  
30 Committee be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1),  
31 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State  
32 Constitution. Public disclosure of such correspondence and  
33 communications could jeopardize the safety of incarcerated  
34 persons. It is essential to the functioning of the office that  
35 incarcerated persons and the public feel free to communicate  
36 with the office concerning conditions in and operations of  
37 correctional facilities. The public records exemption is  
38 necessary to protect incarcerated persons from retaliation by  
39 correctional officers who are under investigation as a result of  
40 communications with the office.

41        **Section 3.** This act shall take effect on the same date  
42 that HB 889 or similar legislation takes effect, if such  
43 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an  
44 extension thereof and becomes a law.