

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to public records; amending s.  
3           119.071, F.S.; providing an exemption from public  
4           records requirements for information related to an  
5           allegation of sexual harassment that could lead to the  
6           identification of the alleged victim; providing for  
7           future legislative review and repeal of the exemption;  
8           providing a statement of public necessity; providing  
9           an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of  
14           section 119.071, Florida Statutes, to read:

15           119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of  
16           public records.—

17           (2) AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS.—

18           (m) Information related to an allegation of sexual  
19           harassment which could lead to the identification of the alleged  
20           victim, including, but not limited to, the alleged victim's  
21           name, home address, telephone number, and electronic mail  
22           address, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.  
23           24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is  
24           subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance  
25           with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2022,

26 | unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
27 | Legislature.

28 |       Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
29 | necessity that information related to an allegation of sexual  
30 | harassment which could lead to the identification of the alleged  
31 | victim be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1),  
32 | Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State  
33 | Constitution. The disclosure of such information could harm  
34 | alleged victims by placing them at risk of further harassment  
35 | and retaliation. Additionally, the potential for disclosure of  
36 | such information could create a disincentive for alleged victims  
37 | to report instances of alleged harassment. The Legislature finds  
38 | that the potential harm that may result from the release of such  
39 | information outweighs any public benefit that may be derived  
40 | from the disclosure of such information.

41 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.