FOR CONSIDERATION By the Committee on Education Pre-K -12

581-02720-24 20247056pb

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to public records; amending s. 30.15, F.S.; providing that certain information relating to school guardians which is held by the Department of Law Enforcement, a law enforcement agency, a school district, or a charter school pursuant to a specified provision is exempt from public records requirements; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 30.15, Florida Statutes, to read:

30.15 Powers, duties, and obligations.

- (6) (a) Any information held by the Department of Law Enforcement or a law enforcement agency, school district, or charter school pursuant to subparagraph (1) (k) 3. which would identify an individual who has been certified to serve as a school guardian is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- (b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government
  Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand
  repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from
  repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that any information held by the Department of Law Enforcement or a law enforcement agency, school district, or

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charter school pursuant to subparagraph s. 30.15(1)(k)3. which would identify an individual who has been certified to serve as a school guardian is exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. School security and student safety are fundamental priorities in this state as is the safety of people serving or who have served as school guardians. School guardians serve a critical role as safe-school officers and first responders, and their presence on school grounds serves as a deterrent against incidents threatening the lives of students and school personnel. Disclosure of the identity of school guardians, whether a school guardian is present on a school campus, and the number of school guardians on any school campus may compromise their safety and adversely affect their ability to adequately respond to an active assailant incident. Accordingly, it is necessary to protect the identity of school guardians from public records requirements in order to effectively and efficiently implement the purpose and intent of school guardian programs. Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that SB 1356 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation

is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension

thereof and becomes a law.