

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2011 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

**Committee on Children, Families,
And Elder Affairs**

CS/HB 579 — Public Records for Regional Autism Centers

by Governmental Operations Subcommittee and Rep. Coley and others (CS/SB 1192 by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee and Senators Rich and Flores)

This bill creates a public-records exemption for all records that relate to a client of a regional autism center who receives the services of a center or participates in center activities, and for all the records that relate to the client's family. The bill specifies circumstances under which the records may be released. Additionally, the bill creates a public-records exemption for the personal identifying information of a donor or prospective donor to a regional autism center who desires to remain anonymous.

The bill provides a statement of public necessity for the public-records exemptions as required by the Florida Constitution and the bill provides that the exemptions are subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act and will be repealed on October 2, 2016, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2011.

Vote: Senate 37-0; House 117-0