

Committee on Commerce and Tourism

CS/CS/HB 997 — Public Records/Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

by Regulatory Affairs Committee; Government Operations Subcommittee; and Rep. Trumbull (CS/CS/SB 1446 by Rules Committee; Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; and Senator Richter)

The bill makes confidential and exempt criminal or civil intelligence or investigative information provided to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) by another state or federal agency as part of a joint or multiagency examination or investigation if the information is confidential or exempt under the regulations or laws of the state or federal agency that provides the information. DACS will be able to obtain, use, and release the information that is confidential or exempt under the laws or regulations of the state or federal source of information in accordance with conditions imposed by agreements DACS enters into with the other state or governmental entity. DACS may also release confidential and exempt information in furtherance of its official duties, and may release the information to another governmental agency in furtherance of that agency's official duties.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon adoption of CS/CS/CS/HB 995 or similar legislation during the 2015 legislative session, or an extension thereof. As of April 29, 2015, neither CS/CS/CS/HB 995, nor any similar legislation was approved by both chambers of the Legislature.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 115-0