1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records; amending s.
3	119.07, F.S.; providing an exemption from
4	public records requirements for certain
5	information on nurses working in correctional
б	or forensic facilities; amending s. 455.5656,
7	F.S.; providing an exemption from public
8	records requirements for information obtained
9	for practitioner profiles of advanced
10	registered nurse practitioners; amending s.
11	119.07, F.S.; providing an exemption from
12	public records requirements for certain
13	information on health care practitioners
14	working in correctional or mental health
15	facilities; amending s. 455.5656, F.S.;
16	providing exemption from public records
17	requirements for information obtained for
18	practitioner profiles of health care
19	practitioners not previously profiled; amending
20	s. 943.0585, F.S.; providing exemption from
21	public records requirements for expunged
22	criminal history information on health care
23	practitioners obtained for certain employment,
24	licensure, or contracting purposes; providing a
25	penalty; providing an exemption from public
26	records requirements for certain information on
27	certain court records to enforce certain orders
28	by the Department of Health; providing for
29	future review and repeal; amending s. 943.059,
30	F.S.; providing sealed criminal history records
31	to the department under certain circumstances;

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providing findings of public necessity; 1 2 providing a contingent effective date. 3 4 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 5 6 Section 1. Paragraph (dd) is added to subsection (3) 7 of section 119.07, Florida Statutes, to read: 8 119.07 Inspection, examination, and duplication of 9 records; exemptions. --10 (3) (dd) The home addresses and home telephone numbers of 11 12 nurses working in any type of correctional facility, including any prison or jail, or in any forensic facility, as defined in 13 14 s. 916.106(8), which are held by the Department of Children 15 and Family Services, the Department of Health, and the Board 16 of Nursing, are exempt from the provisions of subsection (1) 17 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in 18 19 accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 20 2, 2005, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature. 21 The Legislature finds that it is a public 22 Section 2. 23 necessity that the home addresses and home telephone numbers 24 of nurses who work in any type of correctional facility, including any prison or jail, or in any forensic facility, as 25 26 defined in s. 916.106(8), which are held by the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Health, and 27 the Board of Nursing, be held confidential and exempt from 28 29 public records requirements because revealing such information may pose an unnecessary risk to the safety and well-being of 30 31 such nurses in their own homes from inmates or clients of such 2

facilities who seek such information to stalk, intimidate, 1 harass, or otherwise threaten or harm such nurses. The 2 3 disclosure of such information may also deter nurses from 4 seeking to work in such facilities, which would be contrary to 5 the state's interest in ensuring the availability of nursing 6 services in such facilities. 7 Section 3. Section 455.5656, Florida Statutes, is 8 amended to read: 9 455.5656 Practitioner's profiles; confidentiality.--10 (1) Any patient name or other information that identifies a patient which is in a record obtained by the 11 12 Department of Health or its agent for the purpose of compiling a practitioner profile is confidential and exempt from the 13 14 provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State 15 Constitution. Other data received by the department or its agent as a result of its duty to compile and promulgate 16 17 practitioner profiles are confidential and exempt from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State 18 19 Constitution until the profile into which the data are incorporated or with respect to which the data are submitted 20 is made public. Any information or record that the Department 21 of Health obtains from the Agency for Health Care 22 23 Administration or any other governmental entity for the purpose of compiling a practitioner profile or substantiating 24 other information or records submitted for that purpose and 25 26 that was exempt from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution does not lose that 27 character by coming into the possession of the Department of 28 29 Health, and such information or record continues to be exempt from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the 30 State Constitution. 31

1	(2)(a) The provisions of subsection (1) with respect
2	to practitioners who are subject to profiling under s. 455.565
3	<u>are</u> This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
4	Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall
5	stand repealed on October 2, 2002, unless reviewed and saved
6	from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
7	(b) The provisions of subsection (1) with respect to
8	practitioners who are subject to profiling under s. 455.56503
9	or s. 455.56505 are subject to the Open Government Sunset
10	Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall
11	stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless reviewed and saved
12	from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
13	Section 4. Paragraph (dd) is added to subsection (3)
14	of section 119.07, Florida Statutes, to read:
15	119.07 Inspection, examination, and duplication of
16	records; exemptions
17	(3)
18	(dd) The home addresses and home telephone numbers of
19	health care practitioners, as defined in s. 455.501(4),
20	working in any type of correctional facility, including any
21	prison or jail, or in any mental health facility are exempt
22	from the provisions of subsection (1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of
23	the State Constitution.
24	Section 5. <u>The Legislature finds that it is a public</u>
25	necessity that the home addresses and home telephone numbers
26	of health care practitioners who work in any type of
27	correctional facility, including any prison or jail, or in any
28	mental health facility be held confidential and exempt from
29	public records requirements because revealing such information
30	may pose an unnecessary risk to the safety and well-being of
31	such health care practitioners in their own homes from inmates
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or clients of such facilities who seek such information to 1 2 stalk, intimidate, harass, or otherwise threaten or harm such 3 health care practitioners. The disclosure of such information 4 may also deter health care practitioners from seeking to work in such facilities, which would be contrary to the state's 5 6 interest in ensuring the availability of health care services 7 in such facilities. 8 Section 6. Section 455.5656, Florida Statutes, is 9 amended to read: 455.5656 Practitioner's profiles; confidentiality.--10 (1) Any patient name or other information that 11 12 identifies a patient which is in a record obtained by the 13 Department of Health or its agent for the purpose of compiling 14 a practitioner profile is confidential and exempt from the 15 provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Other data received by the department or its 16 17 agent as a result of its duty to compile and promulgate practitioner profiles are confidential and exempt from the 18 19 provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution until the profile into which the data are 20 incorporated or with respect to which the data are submitted 21 is made public. Any information or record that the Department 22 23 of Health obtains from the Agency for Health Care Administration or any other governmental entity for the 24 purpose of compiling a practitioner profile or substantiating 25 26 other information or records submitted for that purpose and 27 that was exempt from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution does not lose that 28 29 character by coming into the possession of the Department of 30 Health, and such information or record continues to be exempt 31

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from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the 1 2 State Constitution. (2)(a) The provisions of subsection (1) with respect 3 4 to practitioners who are subject to profiling under s. 455.565 5 are This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset 6 Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall 7 stand repealed on October 2, 2002, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature. 8 9 (b) The provisions of subsection (1) with respect to practitioners who are subject to profiling under s. 455.56503 10 or s. 455.56505 are subject to the Open Government Sunset 11 12 Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless reviewed and saved 13 14 from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature. 15 Section 7. The Legislature finds that public release of a patient record or other document which includes a 16 17 statement of the patient's medical disease, condition, or treatment plan that identifies the patient by name or by other 18 19 identifier could result in serious and irreparable damage to 20 the patient. Such records obtained by the Department of Health or its agent for purposes of compiling a practitioner profile, 21 if open to the public, may adversely affect the integrity and 22 23 trust of the practitioner-patient relationship and may deter affected parties from seeking needed health care services; 24 therefore, it is a matter of public necessity to protect the 25 26 confidentiality of such patient health information. The Legislature further finds that, because of the nature of the 27 28 data submitted to the Department of Health or its agent for 29 purposes of constructing practitioner profiles, the necessity of ensuring the accuracy of those data, the need to refrain 30 from unnecessarily affecting the livelihood of persons who are 31 6

the subject of practitioner profiles, and the need to maintain 1 2 the integrity and trust of the practitioner-patient 3 relationship without unwarranted aspersions on the 4 professional competence and ability of these persons, it is a 5 matter of public necessity to protect the confidentiality of 6 the data during the period of their verification. The 7 Legislature further finds that the need to learn or verify 8 information about health care practitioners, though furthering 9 a state interest, does not override the public policy determinations made to exempt certain information from public 10 disclosure and that records so exempted should retain that 11 12 status when obtained and used by another governmental entity. Section 8. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (4) of 13 14 section 943.0585, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 15 943.0585 Court-ordered expunction of criminal history records .-- The courts of this state have jurisdiction over 16 17 their own procedures, including the maintenance, expunction, and correction of judicial records containing criminal history 18 19 information to the extent such procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties established 20 by this section. Any court of competent jurisdiction may 21 22 order a criminal justice agency to expunge the criminal 23 history record of a minor or an adult who complies with the requirements of this section. The court shall not order a 24 criminal justice agency to expunge a criminal history record 25 26 until the person seeking to expunge a criminal history record 27 has applied for and received a certificate of eligibility for expunction pursuant to subsection (2). A criminal history 28 29 record that relates to a violation of chapter 794, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 893.135, or a 30 violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be expunded, 31

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without regard to whether adjudication was withheld, if the 1 defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or nolo 2 3 contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, was found to have committed, or pled guilty or nolo contendere 4 to committing, the offense as a delinquent act. The court may 5 only order expunction of a criminal history record pertaining 6 7 to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity, 8 except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole 9 discretion, order the expunction of a criminal history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests 10 directly relate to the original arrest. If the court intends 11 12 to order the expunction of records pertaining to such additional arrests, such intent must be specified in the 13 order. A criminal justice agency may not expunge any record 14 15 pertaining to such additional arrests if the order to expunge does not articulate the intention of the court to expunge a 16 17 record pertaining to more than one arrest. This section does not prevent the court from ordering the expunction of only a 18 19 portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding 20 any law to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply 21 with laws, court orders, and official requests of other 22 23 jurisdictions relating to expunction, correction, or confidential handling of criminal history records or 24 information derived therefrom. This section does not confer 25 26 any right to the expunction of any criminal history record, 27 and any request for expunction of a criminal history record may be denied at the sole discretion of the court. 28 29 (4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD EXPUNCTION. -- Any criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is 30 ordered expunged by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant 31 8

to this section must be physically destroyed or obliterated by 1 any criminal justice agency having custody of such record; 2 except that any criminal history record in the custody of the 3 4 department must be retained in all cases. A criminal history 5 record ordered expunged that is retained by the department is 6 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1)7 and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and not 8 available to any person or entity except upon order of a court 9 of competent jurisdiction. A criminal justice agency may retain a notation indicating compliance with an order to 10 11 expunge. 12 (a) The person who is the subject of a criminal 13 history record that is expunged under this section or under 14 other provisions of law, including former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, and former s. 943.058, may lawfully deny or fail to 15 16 acknowledge the arrests covered by the expunged record, except 17 when the subject of the record: 18 Is a candidate for employment with a criminal 1. 19 justice agency; Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution; 20 2. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief 21 3. under this section or s.943.059; 22 Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar; 23 4. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to 24 5. contract with the Department of Children and Family Services 25 26 or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position 27 having direct contact with children, the developmentally 28 29 disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 30 31 9

402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 1 2 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or 3 6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the Office 4 of Teacher Education, Certification, Staff Development, and 5 Professional Practices of the Department of Education, any 6 district school board, or any local governmental entity that 7 licenses child care facilities; or-8 7. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Health or to be employed or 9 used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position 10 having direct contact with children, the developmentally 11 12 disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 13 14 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400. 15 Subject to the exceptions in paragraph (a), a 16 (b) 17 person who has been granted an expunction under this section, former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, or former s. 943.058 may 18 19 not be held under any provision of law of this state to commit 20 perjury or to be otherwise liable for giving a false statement 21 by reason of such person's failure to recite or acknowledge an 22 expunged criminal history record. 23 (c)1. Information relating to the existence of an expunged criminal history record which is provided in 24 accordance with subparagraphs (a)1.-6.paragraph (a) is 25 26 confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, except that 27 28 the department shall disclose the existence of a criminal 29 history record ordered expunged to the entities set forth in 30 subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., and 6. for their respective licensing and employment purposes, and to criminal justice 31 10

agencies for their respective criminal justice purposes. 1 It 2 is unlawful for any employee of an entity set forth in 3 subparagraph (a)1., subparagraph (a)4., subparagraph (a)5., or 4 subparagraph (a)6. to disclose information relating to the 5 existence of an expunged criminal history record of a person 6 seeking employment or licensure with such entity or 7 contractor, except to the person to whom the criminal history 8 record relates or to persons having direct responsibility for 9 employment or licensure decisions. Any person who violates this subparagraph paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first 10 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. 11 12 2. Information relating to the existence of an expunged criminal history record which is provided in 13 14 accordance with subparagraph (a)7. is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of 15 the State Constitution, except that the department shall 16 17 disclose the existence of a criminal history record ordered expunged to the Department of Health as set forth in 18 19 subparagraph (a)7. for its licensing and employment purposes, 20 and to criminal justice agencies for their respective criminal 21 justice purposes. It is unlawful for any employee of the Department of Health as set forth in subparagraph (a)7. to 22 23 disclose information relating to the existence of an expunged criminal history record of a person seeking employment or 24 licensure with such entity or contractor, except to the person 25 26 to whom the criminal history record relates, to persons having 27 direct responsibility for employment or licensure decisions, or to any other state agency that is authorized in this state 28 29 to receive expunged criminal history records from the department. Any person who violates this subparagraph commits 30 a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in 31 11

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1	s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. This subparagraph is subject to the
2	Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with
3	s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless
4	reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
5	Legislature.
6	Section 9. In any court proceeding to enforce an order
7	by the Department of Health to compel a licensed health care
8	practitioner to submit to a mental or physical examination by
9	physicians designated by the department under section 455.624,
10	Florida Statutes, the licensee against whom the petition for
11	enforcement is filed may not be named or identified by
12	initials in any public court records or documents and is
13	confidential and exempt from the provisions of chapter 119,
14	Florida Statutes, and Section (24)(a), Article I of the State
15	Constitution, and the proceedings shall be closed to the
16	public. This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset
17	Review Act of 1995 in accordance with section 119.15, Florida
18	Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless
19	reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
20	Legislature.
21	Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
22	943.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
23	943.059 Court-ordered sealing of criminal history
24	recordsThe courts of this state shall continue to have
25	jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the
26	maintenance, sealing, and correction of judicial records
27	containing criminal history information to the extent such
28	procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions,
29	responsibilities, and duties established by this section. Any
30	court of competent jurisdiction may order a criminal justice
31	agency to seal the criminal history record of a minor or an
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adult who complies with the requirements of this section. 1 The court shall not order a criminal justice agency to seal a 2 criminal history record until the person seeking to seal a 3 4 criminal history record has applied for and received a 5 certificate of eligibility for sealing pursuant to subsection (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of б 7 chapter 794, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 893.135, or a violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be 8 9 sealed, without regard to whether adjudication was withheld, if the defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or nolo 10 contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, 11 12 was found to have committed or pled guilty or nolo contendere to committing the offense as a delinquent act. The court may 13 14 only order sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to 15 one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity, except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole 16 17 discretion, order the sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests 18 19 directly relate to the original arrest. If the court intends to order the sealing of records pertaining to such additional 20 arrests, such intent must be specified in the order. A 21 22 criminal justice agency may not seal any record pertaining to such additional arrests if the order to seal does not 23 articulate the intention of the court to seal records 24 pertaining to more than one arrest. This section does not 25 26 prevent the court from ordering the sealing of only a portion 27 of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any law 28 to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply with 29 laws, court orders, and official requests of other 30 jurisdictions relating to sealing, correction, or confidential 31

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1 handling of criminal history records or information derived 2 therefrom. This section does not confer any right to the 3 sealing of any criminal history record, and any request for 4 sealing a criminal history record may be denied at the sole 5 discretion of the court.

6 (4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD SEALING.--A 7 criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is 8 ordered sealed by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant 9 to this section is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution 10 and is available only to the person who is the subject of the 11 12 record, to the subject's attorney, to criminal justice agencies for their respective criminal justice purposes, or to 13 14 those entities set forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., and 15 6. for their respective licensing and employment purposes.

(a) The subject of a criminal history record sealed under this section or under other provisions of law, including former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, and former s. 943.058, may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge the arrests covered by the sealed record, except when the subject of the record:

1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal
justice agency;

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2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;

24 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief25 under this section or s. 943.0585;

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4. Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar;5. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Children and Family Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position

having direct contact with children, the developmentally

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disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 1 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 2 3 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 4 415.103, s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or 5 6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to 6 contract with the Department of Health or to be employed or 7 used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having direct contact with children, the developmentally 8 disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 9 10 110.1127(3), s.393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 11 12 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or 7.6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the 13 14 Office of Teacher Education, Certification, Staff Development, and Professional Practices of the Department of Education, any 15 district school board, or any local governmental entity which 16 licenses child care facilities. 17 Section 11. The Legislature finds that public release 18 19 of sealed or expunged criminal history information on health 20 care practitioners seeking employment, licensure, or a contract with the Department of Health to work with children, 21 the developmentally disabled, the aged, or the elderly may 22 23 adversely affect the integrity and trust of such a practitioner-patient relationship, may deter affected parties 24 from seeking needed health care services as a result, and may 25 26 cast unwarranted aspersions on the professional competence and 27 ability of such practitioners and thereby affect their livelihood; therefore, it is a matter of public necessity to 28 29 protect the confidentiality of such information. The Legislature further finds that such information is already 30 confidential under identical circumstances for persons seeking 31 15

employment, licensure, or a contract with the Department of 1 2 Children and Family Services and the Department of Juvenile 3 Justice. The Legislature further finds that the need to learn 4 or verify information about health care practitioners, though 5 furthering a state interest, does not override the public 6 policy determinations made to exempt certain information from 7 public disclosure and that records so exempted should retain 8 that status when obtained and used by another governmental 9 entity. 10 Section 12. The Legislature finds that public release of medical information pertaining to the mental or physical 11 condition of a patient could result in serious and irreparable 12 13 damage to the patient. The Legislature further finds that 14 there is a public necessity in maintaining the confidentiality 15 of such medical records and that a patient should not lose 16 such protection simply because that patient has applied for or 17 been issued a license to practice a health care profession in this state. The Legislature finds that absent a finding of 18 19 probable cause that the applicant or practitioner has violated 20 the law and poses a danger to the patients to whom the 21 practitioner may provide health care services, such practitioner should be afforded the same privileges and rights 22 23 of confidentiality as non-health care practitioners. The Legislature finds that it is a matter of public necessity to 24 protect health care practitioners, as well as other patients, 25 26 from the release of information regarding the practitioner's 27 mental or physical health to refrain from unnecessarily affecting the livelihood of practitioners and to maintain the 28 29 trust of the practitioner-patient relationship without unwarranted aspersions on the professional competence and 30 31 ability of these persons. Moreover, the Legislature finds 16

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that the public's need to know information about practitioners does not override the public policy determination to protect all patients regardless of their occupation or licensure status from intrusion. Furthermore, this public records exemption conforms to existing public records exemptions for other practitioners such as physicians pursuant to ss. 458.331(1)(s) and 459.015(1)(w), dentists pursuant to s. 466.028(1)(s), and others. Section 13. This act shall take effect on the effective date of House Bill 1659 or similar legislation creating s. 455.56503 or s.455.56505, Florida Statutes, to provide for practitioner profiling of additional health care practitioners, and s. 943.0585(4)(a)7., Florida Statutes, to provide the Department of Health access to expunged criminal history information on health care practitioners seeking to work with children, the developmentally disabled, or the aged or elderly, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof. CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.