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2001 Legislature CS for SB 20-C, 1st Engrossed

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2	An act relating to public records; providing
3	that any information identifying or describing
4	the name, location, pharmaceutical cache,
5	contents, capacity, equipment, physical
6	features, or capabilities of individual medical
7	facilities, storage facilities, or laboratories
8	established, maintained, or regulated by the
9	Department of Health in response to an act of
10	terrorism are exempt from public-records
11	requirements; providing for future review and
12	repeal; providing a statement of public
13	necessity; providing a contingent effective
14	date.
15	
16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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18	Section 1. Any information identifying or describing
19	the name, location, pharmaceutical cache, contents, capacity,
20	equipment, physical features, or capabilities of individual
21	medical facilities, storage facilities, or laboratories
22	established, maintained, or regulated by the Department of
23	Health as part of the state's plan to defend against an act of
24	terrorism as defined in section 775.30, Florida Statutes, is
25	exempt from the requirements of section 119.07(1), Florida
26	Statutes, and Section 24(a), Article I of the State
27	Constitution. The certification by the Governor of the
28	sufficiency of any location, pharmaceutical cache, contents,
29	capacity, equipment, physical features, or capabilities of
30	individual medical facilities, storage facilities, or
31	laboratories established, maintained, or regulated by the
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Department of Health as part of the state's plan to defend 1 2 against an act of terrorism is a public record. This exemption 3 is remedial in nature and it is the intent of the Legislature 4 that this exemption be applied to information received by the 5 Department of Health before, on, or after the effective date 6 of this section. Information made exempt by this section may 7 be disclosed by the custodial agency to another state or federal agency in order to prevent, detect, guard against, 8 9 respond to, investigate, or manage the consequences of any attempted or actual act of terrorism, or to prosecute those 10 responsible for such attempts or acts, and the exempt status 11 12 of such information shall be retained while in the possession of the receiving agency. This section is subject to the Open 13 14 Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with 15 section 119.15, Florida Statutes, and shall stand repealed October 2, 2006, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through 16 17 reenactment by the Legislature. Section 2. The Legislature finds that the exemption 18 19 from public-records requirements provided by this act is a 20 public necessity because information identifying or describing 21 the name, location, pharmaceutical cache, contents, capacity, equipment, physical features, or capabilities of individual 22 medical facilities, storage facilities, or laboratories 23 established, maintained, or regulated by the Department of 24 Health as part of the state's plan to defend its residents 25 26 against future acts of terrorism is information that could be 27 used by terrorists in planning acts of terrorism. If terrorists were able to discover the name, location, 28 29 pharmaceutical cache, contents, capacity, equipment, physical features, or capabilities of individual medical facilities, 30 31 storage facilities, or laboratories used to defend the state 2

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and its residents and visitors against an act of terrorism, 1 2 they could use this information to craft a terrorist act to 3 which the state may not be as well prepared to respond. This 4 information could be used to increase the number of people 5 injured or killed in a terrorist act. Although some skill 6 would be required to use such information to further an act of 7 terrorism, ample evidence of the capabilities of terrorists to 8 conduct complicated acts of terrorism exist. The September 11, 9 2001, attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, as well as the intentional spread of anthrax in this country and 10 state, which resulted in the death of one Floridian, provide 11 12 evidence that such capabilities exist. These events also have 13 shown the importance of maintaining appropriate pharmaceutical 14 materials to respond to acts of terrorism and the need to 15 ensure that the locations of pharmaceutical depositories are protected. Consequently, the Legislature finds that 16 17 information concerning the type or amount of pharmaceutical materials or the location of any pharmaceutical depository 18 19 that is maintained or directed by the Department of Health as 20 a response to an act of terrorism must be kept exempt. 21 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that Senate Bill 6-C or similar legislation defining 22 23 "terrorism" for purposes of the Florida Criminal Code takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative 24 session or an extension thereof and becomes law. 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 3 CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.