## Florida Senate - 2007

By the Committee on Transportation; and Senator Baker

596-2040-07

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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to public records; amending s.
3	119.0712, F.S.; revising the public-records
4	exemption for personal information in records
5	of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
б	Vehicles; including identification card numbers
7	in a list of items that are considered personal
8	information; revising provisions for disclosure
9	of personal information in department records;
10	providing conditions for the release of certain
11	information without the express consent of the
12	person to whom such information applies;
13	providing for future review and repeal;
14	providing a statement of public necessity;
15	providing an effective date.
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17	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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19	Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 119.0712, Florida
20	Statutes, is amended to read:
21	119.0712 Executive branch agency-specific exemptions
22	from inspection or copying of public records
23	(2) DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
24	(a) Personal information contained in a motor vehicle
25	record that identifies <u>an individual</u> the subject of that
26	record is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
27	24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution except as provided in
28	this <u>subsection</u> <del>section</del> . Personal information includes, but is
29	not limited to, <u>an individual's</u> the subject's social security
30	number, driver identification number or identification card
31	<u>number</u> , name, address, telephone number, <del>and</del> medical or
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1 disability information, and emergency contact information. For purposes of this subsection, personal information does not 2 include information relating to vehicular crashes, driving 3 violations, and driver's status. For purposes of this 4 5 subsection, the term "motor vehicle record" means any record 6 that pertains to a motor vehicle operator's permit, motor 7 vehicle title, motor vehicle registration, or identification 8 card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor 9 Vehicles. 10 (b) Personal information contained in motor vehicle records made confidential and exempt exempted by this 11 12 subsection may shall be released by the department for any of 13 the following uses: 1.(a) For use in connection with matters of motor 14 vehicle or driver safety and theft; motor vehicle emissions; 15 motor vehicle product alterations, recalls, or advisories; 16 17 performance monitoring of motor vehicles and dealers by motor 18 vehicle manufacturers; and removal of nonowner records from the original owner records of motor vehicle manufacturers, to 19 carry out the purposes of Titles I and IV of the Anti Car 20 21 Theft Act of 1992, the Automobile Information Disclosure Act 22 (15 U.S.C. ss. 1231 et seq.), the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. ss. 23 7401 et seq.), and chapters 301, 305, and 321-331 of Title 49 U.S.C. the Automobile Information Disclosure Act, the Motor 2.4 25 Vehicle Information and Cost Saving Act, the National Traffic 26 and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966, the Anti Car Theft Act 27 of 1992, and the Clean Air Act. 2.8 2.(b) For use by any government agency, including any court or law enforcement agency, in carrying out its 29 30 functions, or any private person or entity acting on behalf of 31

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1	a federal, state, or local agency in carrying out its
2	functions.
3	3.(c) For use in connection with matters of motor
4	vehicle or driver safety and theft; motor vehicle emissions;
5	motor vehicle product alterations, recalls, or advisories;
6	performance monitoring of motor vehicles, motor vehicle parts,
7	and dealers; motor vehicle market research activities,
8	including survey research; and removal of nonowner records
9	from the original owner records of motor vehicle
10	manufacturers.
11	<u>4.(d)</u> For use in the normal course of business by a
12	legitimate business or its agents, employees, or contractors,
13	but only:
14	<u>a.</u> 1. To verify the accuracy of personal information
15	submitted by the individual to the business or its agents,
16	employees, or contractors; and
17	<u>b.</u> 2. If such information as so submitted is not
18	correct or is no longer correct, to obtain the correct
19	information, but only for the purposes of preventing fraud by,
20	pursuing legal remedies against, or recovering on a debt or
21	security interest against, the individual.
22	<u>5.(e)</u> For use in connection with any civil, criminal,
23	administrative, or arbitral proceeding in any court or agency
24	or before any self-regulatory body for:
25	<u>a.</u> 1. Service of process by any certified process
26	server, special process server, or other person authorized to
27	serve process in this state.
28	<u>b.</u> 2. Investigation in anticipation of litigation by an
29	attorney licensed to practice law in this state or the agent
30	of the attorney; however, the information may not be used for
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1 mass commercial solicitation of clients for litigation against 2 motor vehicle dealers. c.3. Investigation by any person in connection with 3 any filed proceeding; however, the information may not be used 4 for mass commercial solicitation of clients for litigation 5 6 against motor vehicle dealers. 7 d.4. Execution or enforcement of judgments and orders. 8 e.5. Compliance with an order of any court. 6.(f) For use in research activities and for use in 9 producing statistical reports, so long as the personal 10 information is not published, redisclosed, or used to contact 11 12 individuals. 13 7.(g) For use by any insurer or insurance support organization, or by a self-insured entity, or its agents, 14 employees, or contractors, in connection with claims 15 investigation activities, anti-fraud activities, rating, or 16 17 underwriting. 18 8.(h) For use in providing notice to the owners of towed or impounded vehicles. 19 9.(i) For use by any licensed private investigative 20 21 agency or licensed security service for any purpose permitted 22 under this subsection. Personal information obtained based on 23 an exempt driver's record may not be provided to a client who cannot demonstrate a need based on a police report, court 2.4 order, or business or personal relationship with the subject 25 26 of the investigation. 27 10.(i) For use by an employer or its agent or insurer 2.8 to obtain or verify information relating to a holder of a commercial driver's license that is required under 49 U.S.C. 29 30 ss. 31301 et seq. 31

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1 11.(k) For use in connection with the operation of 2 private toll transportation facilities. 3 12.(1) For bulk distribution for surveys, marketing, 4 or solicitations when the department has obtained the express consent of the person to whom such personal information 5 6 pertains. 7 13.(m) For any use if the requesting person demonstrates that he or she has obtained the written consent 8 of the person who is the subject of the motor vehicle record. 9 10 14.(n) For any other use specifically authorized by state law, if such use is related to the operation of a motor 11 12 vehicle or public safety. 13 15.(0) For any other use if the person to whom the information pertains has given express consent in a format on 14 a form prescribed by the department. Such consent shall remain 15 in effect until it is revoked by the person on a form 16 17 prescribed by the department. 18 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), without the express consent of the person to whom such information applies, the 19 following information contained in motor vehicle records may 2.0 21 only be released as specified in this paragraph: 22 1. Social security numbers may be released only as 23 provided in subparagraphs (b)2., 5., 7., and 10. 2. An individual's photograph or image may be released 2.4 only as provided in s. 322.142. 25 3. Medical disability information may be released only 26 27 as provided in ss. 322.125 and 322.126. 2.8 4. Emergency contact information may be released only to law enforcement agencies for purposes of contacting those 29 30 listed in the event of an emergency. 31

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1 (d) The restrictions on disclosure of personal 2 information provided by this subsection shall not in any way affect the use of organ donation information on individual 3 driver licenses or affect the administration of organ donation 4 initiatives in this state. 5 6 (e)1. Personal information made confidential and 7 exempt exempted from public disclosure according to this 8 subsection may be disclosed by the Department of Highway 9 Safety and Motor Vehicles to an individual, firm, corporation, or similar business entity whose primary business interest is 10 to resell or redisclose the personal information to persons 11 12 who are authorized to receive such information. Prior to the 13 department's disclosure of personal information, such individual, firm, corporation, or similar business entity must 14 first enter into a contract with the department regarding the 15 care, custody, and control of the personal information to 16 17 ensure compliance with the federal Driver's Privacy Protection 18 Act of 1994 and applicable state laws. 2. An authorized recipient of personal information 19 contained in a motor vehicle record, except a recipient under 20 21 subparagraph (b)12. paragraph (1), may contract with the 22 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to resell or 23 redisclose the information for any use permitted under this section. However, only authorized recipients of personal 2.4 25 information under <u>subparagraph (b)12.</u> paragraph (1) may resell 26 or redisclose personal information pursuant to subparagraph (b)12. paragraph (l). 27 3. Any authorized recipient who resells or rediscloses 2.8 29 personal information shall maintain, for a period of 5 years, records identifying each person or entity that receives the 30 personal information and the permitted purpose for which it 31 6

1 will be used. Such records shall be made available for 2 inspection upon request by the department. (f) The department may shall adopt rules to carry out 3 4 the purposes of this subsection and the federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721 et seq. 5 6 Rules adopted by the department may shall provide for the 7 payment of applicable fees and, prior to the disclosure of 8 personal information pursuant to this subsection, may shall require the meeting of conditions by the requesting person for 9 the purposes of obtaining reasonable assurance concerning the 10 identity of such requesting person, and, to the extent 11 12 required, assurance that the use will be only as authorized or 13 that the consent of the person who is the subject of the personal information has been obtained. Such conditions may 14 include, but need not be limited to, the making and filing of 15 16 a written application in such form and containing such 17 information and certification requirements as the department 18 requires. (q) This subsection is subject to the Open Government 19 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand 20 21 repealed October 2, 2012, unless reviewed and saved from 22 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature. 23 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that personal information in an individual's motor 2.4 vehicle record held by the Department of Highway Safety and 25 Motor Vehicles be made confidential and exempt from public 26 27 disclosure. Making such personal information confidential and 2.8 exempt conforms state law to the requirements of the Federal Driver's Privacy Protection Act of 1994, as amended by s. 350 29 of Pub. L. No. 106-69, 18 U.S.C. ss. 2721-2725, which 30 prohibits disclosure of information of a sensitive, personal 31

1	nature, with specified exceptions. Additionally, the
2	Legislature notes that the state has a compelling interest in
3	regulating motor vehicles and motor vehicle drivers. The sale
4	of automobiles not only provides jobs for Floridians, but
5	taxes collected from their sale and use provide revenues to
6	the state. It should also be noted that automobiles also are
7	attractive targets for thieves. Theft of automobiles not only
8	deprives the lawful owners of their property but interferes
9	with the chain of title and causes insurance rates to rise. As
10	a result, the state must collect information about automobile
11	sales, the sellers and buyers, insurance companies, and other
12	businesses. Further, the Legislature notes that automobiles,
13	if used improperly, can cause injury and death to persons in
14	this state. Therefore, the state must ensure that persons who
15	drive in this state are properly trained, licensed, and
16	insured. As a result, the state must collect personal
17	information regarding persons who drive in this state. The
18	personal information that is contained in motor vehicle
19	records, if readily available for public inspection and
20	copying, could be used to invade the personal privacy of the
21	persons identified in the records or could be used for other
22	purposes, such as solicitation, harassment, stalking, and
23	intimidation. Limiting access to the state's motor vehicle
24	records will protect the privacy of persons who are identified
25	in those records and minimize the opportunity for invading
26	that privacy. Thus, the Legislature finds that such personal
27	information in motor vehicle records should be exempt from the
28	requirements of s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
29	<u>Nevertheless, the Legislature also notes that there are a</u>
30	number of reasons that certain agencies, businesses, and other
31	persons should be granted limited access to exempt personal

1	information contained in motor vehicle records. The
2	Legislature finds that access to this personal information by
3	these governmental and private entities should be continued in
4	a limited, regulated fashion in order to balance the privacy
5	rights of persons named in motor vehicle records with the need
6	for these entities to perform certain important regulatory and
7	economic functions that are important to the health, safety,
8	and welfare of the citizens of the state. Persons identified
9	in motor vehicle records may need to be notified of product
10	recalls, advisories, or product monitoring, and manufacturers
11	and others need current addresses to contact them. Government
12	agencies, including courts and law enforcement agencies and
13	persons acting on their behalf, may need access to carry out
14	their legislatively assigned functions. Additionally,
15	researchers, investigators, insurance companies, and other
16	businesses and industries often must rely on personal
17	information in motor vehicle records to operate and perform
18	certain business functions. Such information should be
19	available to legitimate businesses and their agents,
20	employees, or contractors in their normal course of business
21	to verify the accuracy of personal information and to obtain
22	correct information, to prevent fraud, to pursue legal
23	remedies, or to recover on a debt or security interest.
24	Further, such exempt information should be available for use
25	in connection with any civil, criminal, administrative, or
26	arbitral proceeding for service of process, execution or
27	enforcement of judgments and orders, and compliance with an
28	order of any court; for use by insurers or support
29	organizations in connection with claims, investigation
30	activities, anti-fraud activities, and rating or underwriting;
31	and for providing notice to owners of towed or impounded

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1	vehicles. Access to such exempt information should also be
2	provided for investigation in anticipation of litigation or
3	for a filed proceeding, but the Legislature finds that
4	authorizing access to motor vehicle records for these limited
5	purposes should not be construed to permit mass commercial
6	solicitation of clients for litigation against motor vehicle
7	dealers because it would be contrary to the limited access
8	contemplated by the exceptions to the exemption and would
9	further invade the privacy of persons named in these records.
10	Further, researchers, investigators, or insurance companies
11	may need to access the large database of motor vehicle records
12	for use in producing statistical reports, but the Legislature
13	finds that this access should not infringe upon the privacy of
14	the persons named in the records by publishing, redisclosing,
15	or using that information or to contact the named persons.
16	Thus, the Legislature specifically finds that it is a public
17	necessity that personal information in motor vehicle records
18	be made confidential and exempt with the limited exceptions to
19	that exemption authorized in this act.
20	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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22	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
23	Senate Bill 830
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25	The committee substitute (CS) provides personal information contained in a motor vehicle record is confidential. In
26	addition, personal information includes an identification card number and emergency contact information.
27	The CS also makes this exemption subject to the Open
28	Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 and will repeal on October 8, 2009, unless reviewed and reenacted by the
29	Legislature. In addition, a public necessity statement as required by Art. I., s.24(c), of the State Constitution, to
30	justify the exemption from public records laws, is provided.
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