1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to nursing education programs;
3	amending s. 464.003, F.S.; revising definitions;
4	conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 464.013,
5	F.S.; exempting nurses who are certified by an
6	accredited program from continuing education
7	requirements; amending s. 464.019, F.S.; specifying
8	the location of clinical training; revising the
9	limitation on the percentage of clinical training that
10	may consist of clinical simulation; deleting obsolete
11	requirements; authorizing the Board of Nursing to
12	adopt certain rules relating to documenting the
13	accreditation of nursing education programs; revising
14	the terms of an implementation study; requiring
15	nursing education programs that prepare students for
16	the practice of professional nursing to be accredited;
17	providing an exception; amending s. 456.014, F.S.;
18	conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective
19	date.
20	
21	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
22	
23	Section 1. Subsections (10), (19), and (23) of section
24	464.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
25	464.003 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:
26	(10) "Clinical training" means direct nursing care
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experiences with patients or clients, or clinical simulation of such experiences, which offer the student the opportunity to integrate, apply, and refine specific skills and abilities based on theoretical concepts and scientific principles.

"Practice of practical nursing" means the performance 31 (19)32 of selected acts, including the administration of treatments and 33 medications, in the care of the ill, injured, or infirm; and the 34 promotion of wellness, maintenance of health, and prevention of 35 illness of others under the direction of a registered nurse, a 36 licensed physician, a licensed osteopathic physician, a licensed 37 podiatric physician, or a licensed dentist; and the teaching of general principles of health and wellness to the public and to 38 39 students other than nursing students. A practical nurse is responsible and accountable for making decisions that are based 40 41 upon the individual's educational preparation and experience in 42 nursing.

43 (23) "Required passage rate" means the graduate passage
44 rate required for an approved program pursuant to s.
45 464.019(5)(a) 464.019(6)(a)1.

46 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 464.013, Florida47 Statutes, is amended to read:

48

464.013 Renewal of license or certificate.-

(3) The board shall by rule prescribe <u>up to 30 hours of</u>
continuing education not to exceed 30 hours biennially as a
condition for renewal of a license or certificate. <u>A nurse who</u>
<u>is certified by a health care specialty program accredited by</u>

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the National Commission for Certifying Agencies or the Accreditation Board for Specialty Nursing Certification is exempt from continuing education requirements. The criteria for programs shall be approved by the board.

57 Section 3. Section 464.019, Florida Statutes, is amended 58 to read:

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53

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56

464.019 Approval of nursing education programs.-

60 PROGRAM APPLICATION APPLICATIONS. - An educational (1)61 institution that wishes to conduct a program in this state for the prelicensure education of professional or practical nurses 62 must submit to the department a program application and review 63 fee of \$1,000 for each prelicensure nursing education program to 64 be offered at the institution's main campus, branch campus, or 65 other instructional site. The Each program application must 66 67 include the legal name of the educational institution, the legal 68 name of the nursing education program, and, if such institution 69 program is accredited by an accrediting agency other than an 70 accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1), the name of the 71 accrediting agency. The application must also document that:

(a)1. For a professional nursing education program, the program director and at least 50 percent of the program's faculty members are registered nurses who have a master's or higher degree in nursing or a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's or higher degree in a field related to nursing.

For a practical nursing education program, the program
 director and at least 50 percent of the program's faculty
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81

79 members are registered nurses who have a bachelor's or higher 80 degree in nursing.

82 The educational degree requirements of this paragraph may be 83 documented by an official transcript or by a written statement 84 from the educational institution verifying that the institution 85 conferred the degree.

86 (b) The program's nursing major curriculum consists of at 87 least:

1. Fifty percent clinical training <u>in the United States</u>, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the <u>United States</u> for a practical nursing education program, an associate degree professional nursing education program, or a professional diploma nursing education program.

93 2. Forty percent clinical training <u>in the United States</u>,
94 <u>the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the</u>
95 <u>United States</u> for a bachelor's degree professional nursing
96 education program.

97 (c) No more than <u>50</u> 25 percent of the program's clinical
98 training consists of clinical simulation.

99 (d) The program has signed agreements with each agency, 100 facility, and organization included in the curriculum plan as 101 clinical training sites and community-based clinical experience 102 sites.

103 (e) The program has written policies for faculty which 104 include provisions for direct or indirect supervision by program Page 4 of 20

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105 faculty or clinical preceptors for students in clinical training 106 consistent with the following standards:

The number of program faculty members equals at least
 one faculty member directly supervising every 12 students unless
 the written agreement between the program and the agency,
 facility, or organization providing clinical training sites
 allows more students, not to exceed 18 students, to be directly
 supervised by one program faculty member.

113 2. For a hospital setting, indirect supervision may occur 114 only if there is direct supervision by an assigned clinical 115 preceptor, a supervising program faculty member is available by 116 telephone, and such arrangement is approved by the clinical 117 facility.

3. For community-based clinical experiences that involve student participation in invasive or complex nursing activities, students must be directly supervised by a program faculty member or clinical preceptor and such arrangement must be approved by the community-based clinical facility.

4. For community-based clinical experiences not subject to
subparagraph 3., indirect supervision may occur only when a
supervising program faculty member is available to the student
by telephone.

127

128 A program's policies established under this paragraph must 129 require <u>that</u> a clinical preceptor <u>who is</u>, if supervising 130 students in a professional nursing education program, to be a Page 5 of 20

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131 registered nurse or, if supervising students in a practical 132 nursing education program, to be a registered nurse or licensed 133 practical nurse.

The professional or practical nursing curriculum plan 134 (f) 135 documents clinical experience and theoretical instruction in 136 medical, surgical, obstetric, pediatric, and geriatric nursing. 137 A professional nursing curriculum plan shall also document 138 clinical experience and theoretical instruction in psychiatric 139 nursing. Each curriculum plan must document clinical training 140 experience in appropriate settings that include, but are not 141 limited to, acute care, long-term care, and community settings.

The professional or practical nursing education 142 (q) program provides theoretical instruction and clinical 143 application in personal, family, and community health concepts; 144 145 nutrition; human growth and development throughout the life 146 span; body structure and function; interpersonal relationship skills; mental health concepts; pharmacology and administration 147 148 of medications; and legal aspects of practice. A professional 149 nursing education program must shall also provide theoretical instruction and clinical application in interpersonal 150 relationships and leadership skills; professional role and 151 152 function; and health teaching and counseling skills.

153

(2) PROGRAM APPROVAL.-

(a) Upon receipt of a program application and review fee,
 the department shall examine the application to determine <u>if</u>
 whether it is complete. If <u>the</u> a program application is not
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157 complete, the department shall notify the educational 158 institution in writing of any errors or omissions within 30 days 159 after the department's receipt of the application. A program 160 application is deemed complete upon the department's receipt of:

161 1. The initial application, if the department does not
162 notify the educational institution of any errors or omissions
163 within the 30-day period; or

164 2. A revised application that corrects each error and
165 omission of which the department notifies the educational
166 institution within the 30-day period.

(b) Within 90 days after the department's receipt of acomplete program application, the board shall:

169 1. Approve the application if it documents compliance with 170 <u>subsection (1)</u> paragraphs (1) (a)-(g); or

171 2. Provide the educational institution with a notice of 172 intent to deny the application if it does not document 173 compliance with subsection (1) $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$. The notice 174 must specify set forth written reasons for the board's denial of 175 the application. The board may not deny a program application 176 because of an educational institution's failure to correct an 177 any error or omission that of which the department failed to 178 provide notice of to does not notify the institution within the 179 30-day notice period under paragraph (a). The educational 180 institution may request a hearing on the notice of intent to 181 deny the program application pursuant to chapter 120.

182 (c) A program application is deemed approved if the board Page 7 of 20

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183 does not act within the 90-day review period provided under 184 paragraph (b).

185 (d) Upon the board's approval of a program application,186 the program becomes an approved program.

187 (3) STATUS OF CERTAIN PROGRAMS.—A professional or 188 practical nursing education program becomes an approved program 189 if, as of June 30, 2009, the program:

(a) Has full or provisional approval from the board or,
 except as provided in paragraph (b), is on probationary status.

192 (b) Is on probationary status because the program did not 193 meet the board's requirement for graduate passage rates. Such 194 program shall remain on probationary status until it achieves a 195 graduate passage rate for calendar year 2009 or 2010 that equals 196 or exceeds the required passage rate for the respective calendar 197 year and must disclose its probationary status in writing to the 198 program's students and applicants. If the program does not achieve the required passage rate, the board shall terminate the 199 200 program pursuant to chapter 120.

201 <u>(3)</u>(4) ANNUAL REPORT.-By November 1 of each year, each 202 approved program shall submit to the board an annual report 203 comprised of an affidavit certifying continued compliance with 204 <u>subsection (1)</u> paragraphs (1)(a)-(g), a summary description of 205 the program's compliance with <u>subsection (1)</u> paragraphs (1)(a)- 206 (g), and documentation for the previous academic year that, to 207 the extent applicable, <u>describes</u> sets forth:

208

(a) The number of student applications received, qualified Page 8 of 20

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209 applicants, applicants accepted, accepted applicants who enroll 210 in the program, students enrolled in the program, and program 211 graduates.

(b) The program's retention rates for students trackedfrom program entry to graduation.

(c) The program's accreditation status, including identification of the accrediting agency if such agency is not an accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1).

217 <u>(4) (5)</u> INTERNET WEBSITE. By October 1, 2010, The board 218 shall publish the following information on its Internet website:

(a) A list of each accredited program conducted in the state and the program's graduate passage rates for the most recent 2 calendar years, which the department shall determine through the following sources:

1. For a program's accreditation status, the specialized accrediting agencies that are nationally recognized by the United States Secretary of Education to accredit nursing education programs.

227 2. For a program's graduate passage rates, the contract 228 testing service of the National Council of State Boards of 229 Nursing.

(b) The following data for each approved program, which
 <u>includes shall include</u>, to the extent applicable:

2321. All documentation provided by the program in its233program application if submitted on or after July 1, 2009.

234 2. The summary description of the program's compliance Page 9 of 20

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235 submitted under subsection (3) (4).

3. The program's accreditation status, including
identification of the accrediting agency if such agency is not
an accrediting agency described in s. 464.003(1).

239

4. The program's probationary status.

5. The program's graduate passage rates for the mostrecent 2 calendar years.

242 6. Each program's retention rates for students tracked243 from program entry to graduation.

The average passage rates for United States educated 244 (C) 245 first-time test takers on the National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination for the most recent 2 calendar 246 247 years, as calculated by the contract testing service of the 248 National Council of State Boards of Nursing. The average passage 249 rates shall be published separately for each type of comparable 250 degree program listed in subparagraph (5) (a) 1. sub-subparagraphs 251 (6) (a) 1.a.-d.

252

The information required to be published under this subsection shall be made available in a manner that allows interactive searches and comparisons of individual programs selected by the website user. The board shall update the Internet website at least quarterly with the available information.

258

(5) (6) ACCOUNTABILITY.-

(a)1. An approved program must achieve a graduate passage rate that is not more lower than 10 percentage points lower less Page 10 of 20

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261 than the average passage rate during the same calendar year for 262 graduates of comparable degree programs who are United States 263 educated, first-time test takers on the National Council of 264 State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination during a calendar 265 year, as calculated by the contract testing service of the 266 National Council of State Boards of Nursing. For purposes of 267 this subparagraph, an approved program is comparable to all 268 degree programs of the same program type from among the 269 following program types:

a. Professional nursing education programs that terminatein a bachelor's degree.

b. Professional nursing education programs that terminatein an associate degree.

274 c. Professional nursing education programs that terminate275 in a diploma.

276

d. Practical nursing education programs.

277 2. Beginning with graduate passage rates for calendar year 278 2010, if an approved program's graduate passage rates do not 279 equal or exceed the required passage rates for 2 consecutive 280 calendar years, the board shall place the program on 281 probationary status pursuant to chapter 120 and the program 282 director shall must appear before the board to present a plan 283 for remediation. The program must shall remain on probationary 284 status until it achieves a graduate passage rate that equals or 285 exceeds the required passage rate for any 1 calendar year. The 286 board shall deny a program application for a new prelicensure

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287 nursing education program submitted by an educational 288 institution if the institution has an existing program that is 289 already on probationary status.

290 3. Upon the program's achievement of a graduate passage 291 rate that equals or exceeds the required passage rate, the 292 board, at its next regularly scheduled meeting following release 293 of the program's graduate passage rate by the National Council 294 of State Boards of Nursing, shall remove the program's 295 probationary status. However, if the program, during the 2 calendar years following its placement on probationary status, 296 does not achieve the required passage rate for any 1 calendar 297 298 year, the board shall terminate the program pursuant to chapter 299 120.

300 If an approved program fails to submit the annual (b) 301 report required in subsection (3) (4), the board shall notify 302 the program director and president or chief executive officer of 303 the educational institution in writing within 15 days after the 304 due date of the annual report. The program director shall must 305 appear before the board at the board's next regularly scheduled 306 meeting to explain the reason for the delay. The board shall 307 terminate the program pursuant to chapter 120 if it does not 308 submit the annual report within 6 months after the due date.

309 (c) An approved program on probationary status shall 310 disclose its probationary status in writing to the program's 311 students and applicants.

312

(6)(7) DISCLOSURE OF GRADUATE PASSAGE RATE DATA.-

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(a)

313

314

315

316

For each graduate of the program an approved program's or accredited program's graduates included in the calculation of the program's graduate passage rate, the department shall disclose to the program director, upon his or her written

317 request, the name, examination date, and determination of 318 whether each graduate passed or failed the National Council of 319 for State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination, if to the 320 extent that such information is provided to the department by 321 the contract testing service of the National Council of for State Boards of Nursing. The written request must specify the 322 calendar years for which the information is requested. 323

324 A program director to whom confidential information (b) 325 exempt from public disclosure pursuant to s. 456.014 is 326 disclosed under this subsection must maintain the 327 confidentiality of the information and is subject to the same 328 penalties provided in s. 456.082 for department employees who 329 unlawfully disclose confidential information.

330

(7) (8) PROGRAM CLOSURE.-

331 (a) An educational institution conducting an approved 332 program or accredited program in this state, at least 30 days 333 before voluntarily closing the program, shall notify the board 334 in writing of the institution's reason for closing the program, 335 the intended closure date, the institution's plan to provide for 336 or assist in the completion of training by the program's 337 students, and the arrangements for storage of the program's 338 permanent records.

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(b) An educational institution conducting a nursing education program that is terminated under subsection <u>(5)</u> (6) or closed under subparagraph <u>(9)(b)3.</u> (10)(b)3.:

342

1. May not accept or enroll new students.

2. <u>Shall</u> Must submit to the board within 30 days after the program is terminated or closed a written description of how the institution will assist in <u>completing</u> the <u>completion of</u> training <u>of by</u> the program's students and the institution's arrangements for storage of the program's permanent records.

348 (c) If an educational institution does not comply with 349 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), the board shall provide a 350 written notice explaining the institution's noncompliance to the 351 following persons and entities:

352 1. The president or chief executive officer of the353 educational institution.

354 2. The Board of Governors, if the program is conducted by355 a state university.

356 3. The district school board, if the program is conducted 357 by an educational institution operated by a school district.

358 4. The Commission for Independent Education, if the
359 program is conducted by an educational institution licensed
360 under chapter 1005.

361 5. The State Board of Education, if the program is
362 conducted by an educational institution in the Florida College
363 System or by an educational institution that is not subject to
364 subparagraphs 2.-4.

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365 (8) (9) RULEMAKING.-The board does not have any rulemaking authority to administer this section, except that the board 366 367 shall adopt rules a rule that prescribe prescribes the format 368 for submitting program applications under subsection (1) and 369 annual reports under subsection (3), and to administer the 370 documentation of the accreditation of nursing education programs 371 under subsection (11) (4). The board may not impose any 372 condition or requirement on an educational institution 373 submitting a program application, an approved program, or an 374 accredited program, except as expressly provided in this 375 section. The board shall repeal all rules, or portions thereof, in existence on July 1, 2009, that are inconsistent with this 376 377 subsection. 378 (9) (10) APPLICABILITY TO ACCREDITED PROGRAMS.-379 (a) Subsections (1) - (3) + (1) - (4), paragraph (4) + (b) + (5) + (b),

and subsection (5) (6) do not apply to an accredited program. An accredited program on probationary status before July 1, 2010, ceases to be subject to the probationary status.

(b) If an accredited program ceases to be accredited, theeducational institution conducting the program:

385 1. Within 10 business days after the program ceases to be 386 accredited, must provide written notice of the date that the 387 program ceased to be accredited to the board, the program's 388 students and applicants, and each entity providing clinical 389 training sites or community-based clinical experience sites for 390 the program. The educational institution must continue to Page 15 of 20

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391 provide the written notice to new students, applicants, and 392 entities providing clinical training sites or community-based 393 clinical experience sites for the program until the program 394 becomes an approved program or is closed under subparagraph 3.

395 Within 30 days after the program ceases to be 2. 396 accredited, must submit an affidavit to the board, signed by the 397 educational institution's president or chief executive officer 398 which, that certifies the institution's compliance with 399 subparagraph 1. The board shall notify the persons and applicable entities listed in paragraph (7) (c) subparagraph 400 401 (8) (c)1. and the applicable entities listed in subparagraphs 402 (8)(c)2.-5. if an educational institution does not submit the 403 affidavit required by this subparagraph.

404 3. May apply to become an approved program under this405 section. If the educational institution:

406 Within 30 days after the program ceases to be a. 407 accredited, submits a program application and review fee to the 408 department under subsection (1) and the affidavit required under 409 subparagraph 2., the program shall be deemed an approved program 410 from the date that the program ceased to be accredited until the 411 date that the board approves or denies the program application. 412 The program application must be denied by the board pursuant to 413 chapter 120 if it does not contain the affidavit. If the board 414 denies the program application under subsection (2) or if 415 because the program application does not contain the affidavit, 416 the program shall be closed and the educational institution

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417 conducting the program must comply with paragraph (7) (b) $\frac{(8)(b)}{(2)}$. 418 Does not apply to become an approved program pursuant b. 419 to sub-subparagraph a., the program shall be deemed an approved 420 program from the date that the program ceased to be accredited 421 until the 31st day after that date. On the 31st day after the 422 program ceased to be accredited, the program shall be closed and 423 the educational institution conducting the program must comply 424 with paragraph $(7)(b) \frac{(8)(b)}{(b)}$.

425 (10) (11) IMPLEMENTATION STUDY.-The Florida Center for Nursing and the education policy area of the Office of Program 426 427 Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall study the 5-428 year administration of this section and submit reports to the 429 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the 430 House of Representatives annually by January 30, 2011, and 431 annually thereafter through January 30, 2020 2015. The annual 432 reports shall address the previous academic year; provide set 433 forth data on the measures specified in paragraphs (a) and (b), 434 as such data becomes available; and include an evaluation of 435 such data for purposes of determining whether this section is 436 increasing the availability of nursing education programs and 437 the production of quality nurses. The department and each 438 approved program or accredited program shall comply with 439 requests for data from the Florida Center for Nursing and the 440 education policy area of the Office of Program Policy Analysis 441 and Government Accountability.

442

(a) The education policy area of the Office of Program $${\rm Page}\,17\,of\,20$$

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443 Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall evaluate 444 program-specific data for each approved program and accredited 445 program conducted in the state, including, but not limited to: 446 1. The number of programs and student slots available. 447 2. The number of student applications submitted, the 448 number of qualified applicants, and the number of students 449 accepted. 450 3. The number of program graduates.

451 4. Program retention rates of students tracked from452 program entry to graduation.

453 5. Graduate passage rates on the National Council of State454 Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination.

455 6. The number of graduates who become employed as456 practical or professional nurses in the state.

(b) The Florida Center for Nursing shall evaluate theboard's implementation of the:

1. Program application approval process, including, but not limited to, the number of program applications submitted under subsection (1); the number of program applications approved and denied by the board under subsection (2); the number of denials of program applications reviewed under chapter 120; and a description of the outcomes of those reviews.

465 2. Accountability processes, including, but not limited 466 to, the number of programs on probationary status, the number of 467 approved programs for which the program director is required to 468 appear before the board under subsection (5) (6), the number of Page 18 of 20

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469 approved programs terminated by the board, the number of 470 terminations reviewed under chapter 120, and a description of 471 the outcomes of those reviews.

(c) For any state fiscal year in which the Florida Center for Nursing does not receive legislative appropriations, the education policy area of the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall perform the duties assigned by this subsection to the Florida Center for Nursing.

477

(11) ACCREDITATION REQUIRED.-

478 (a) A nursing education program that prepares students for
479 the practice of professional nursing, that was approved under
480 this section before July 1, 2014, and that enrolled students
481 before July 1, 2014, must become an accredited program by July
482 1, 2019.

483 (b) A nursing education program that prepares students for 484 the practice of professional nursing and that was approved under 485 this section before July 1, 2014, but did not enroll students 486 before that date, must become an accredited program within 5 487 years after the date of enrolling the program's first students. 488 A nursing education program that prepares students for (C) 489 the practice of professional nursing and that is approved under this section after June 30, 2014, must become an accredited 490 491 program within 5 years after the date of enrolling the program's 492 first students. 493 (d) This subsection does not apply to a nursing education 494 program provided by an institution that is exempt from licensure

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495 by the Commission for Independent Education under s. 496 1005.06(1)(e). 497 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 456.014, Florida 498 Statutes, is amended to read: 499 456.014 Public inspection of information required from 500 applicants; exceptions; examination hearing.-501 (1) All information required by the department of any 502 applicant shall be a public record and shall be open to public 503 inspection pursuant to s. 119.07, except financial information, 504 medical information, school transcripts, examination questions, answers, papers, grades, and grading keys, which are 505 506 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and shall not be 507 discussed with or made accessible to anyone except the program 508 director of an approved program or accredited program as 509 provided in s. 464.019(6) $\frac{464.019(7)}{7}$, members of the board, the 510 department, and staff thereof, who have a bona fide need to know such information. Any information supplied to the department by 511 512 any other agency which is exempt from the provisions of chapter 513 119 or is confidential shall remain exempt or confidential 514 pursuant to applicable law while in the custody of the 515 department or the agency.

516

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

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