

26 | with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023,
27 | unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment of the
28 | Legislature.

29 | Section 2. Section 252.64, Florida Statutes, is created to
30 | read:

31 | 252.64 Public records exemption; damage assessments.—The
32 | name, address, and telephone number of a homeowner or tenant
33 | held by an agency as defined in s. 119.011, for the purpose of
34 | providing or receiving damage assessment data following a
35 | disaster are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of
36 | the State Constitution. Such information shall cease to be
37 | exempt 1 year after the date of the disaster. This section is
38 | subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance
39 | with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023,
40 | unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment of the
41 | Legislature.

42 | Section 3. (1) The Legislature finds that it is a public
43 | necessity that the name, address, and telephone number of a
44 | person using a public shelter during an emergency held by an
45 | agency be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and
46 | s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Shelters are made
47 | available to the public to provide a safe place of accommodation
48 | before, during, and immediately following an emergency. During
49 | an emergency, the people affected are in a vulnerable state as
50 | they have voluntarily displaced themselves from their residences

51 and possessions to seek refuge. The information submitted by
52 such a shelter resident could be used by persons seeking to take
53 advantage of their vulnerability during or following the
54 emergency. In addition, people seeking shelter for their safety
55 and the safety of their families should not be forced to forfeit
56 their privacy for the sake of such safety. Therefore, the
57 Legislature finds that it is a public necessity to protect such
58 information from public disclosure.

59 (2) The Legislature further finds that it is a public
60 necessity that the name, address, and telephone number of a
61 person held by an agency for the purpose of providing or
62 receiving damage assessment data should be made exempt from s.
63 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the
64 State Constitution for 1 year following the date of a disaster.
65 In response to a disaster, an agency, in trying to ascertain the
66 damage to certain areas, may ask residents to submit damage
67 assessment data detailing the damage to their properties. The
68 agency may also create damage assessment data or amend the
69 submitted data to enhance the accuracy of all damage assessments
70 within a given area. The data may include a person's name,
71 address, and telephone number which may be used to locate the
72 damaged property, identify the owner or tenant, and contact
73 them, if needed. Following a disaster, the people affected are
74 vulnerable, frequently displaced, and living without their
75 possessions, and their homes may be severely damaged, often to

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76 | the point of being uninhabitable. The information could, if
77 | released, be used by thieves, predatory lenders, deceptive
78 | contractors, or persons otherwise seeking to take advantage of
79 | the vulnerability of an affected homeowner or tenant following a
80 | disaster. Therefore, it is necessary that this information be
81 | protected for a period of time to ensure that people affected by
82 | a disaster are not harassed, intimidated, or potentially
83 | defrauded.

84 | Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.