

By Senator Pizzo

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public meetings; amending s.
3 943.6872, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
4 meetings requirements for portions of the Urban Core
5 Gun Violence Task Force meetings at which exempt or
6 confidential and exempt information is discussed;
7 providing for future legislative review and repeal of
8 the exemption; providing a statement of public
9 necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Present subsections (7) and (8) of section
14 943.6872, Florida Statutes, as created by SB 652, 2020 Regular
15 Session, are redesignated as subsections (8) and (9),
16 respectively, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section,
17 to read:

18 (7) Any portion of a meeting of the Urban Core Gun Violence
19 Task Force at which exempt or confidential and exempt
20 information is discussed is exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b),
21 Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to
22 the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s.
23 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2025, unless
24 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
25 Legislature.

26 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
27 necessity that any portion of a meeting of the Urban Core Gun
28 Violence Task Force at which exempt or confidential and exempt
29 information is discussed be made exempt from s. 286.011, Florida

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30 Statutes, and s. 24(b), Article I of the State Constitution. The
31 purpose of the task force is to investigate system failures and
32 the causes of high crime rates and gun violence incidents in
33 urban core neighborhoods and communities. In addition, the task
34 force shall develop recommendations for solutions, programs,
35 services, and strategies for improved interagency communications
36 between local and state government agencies which will help
37 facilitate the reduction of crime and gun violence in urban core
38 neighborhoods and communities. In order to fulfill its
39 directive, the task force must be able to discuss exempt or
40 confidential and exempt information that it receives as part of
41 its investigation. The public meetings exemption will allow the
42 task force to review and discuss exempt or confidential and
43 exempt information that will be useful in forming meaningful
44 recommendations for system improvements and improved interagency
45 communications. As such, it is necessary that those portions of
46 meetings wherein exempt or confidential and exempt information
47 is discussed be made exempt from public meetings requirements.
48 If such portions of the meeting were not closed, the public
49 records exemptions would be negated. Thus, the Legislature finds
50 that the public meeting exemption is a public necessity in order
51 to ensure the effective and efficient administration of the
52 Urban Core Gun Violence Task Force.

53 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that
54 SB 652 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation
55 is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension
56 thereof and becomes a law.