1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to public records and meetings; 3 amending s. 415.1103, F.S.; specifying that any exempt 4 or confidential and exempt information obtained by an 5 elder abuse fatality review team retains its exempt or 6 confidential and exempt status; providing an exemption 7 from public records requirements for identifying 8 information of an elder abuse victim in records 9 created by an elder abuse fatality review team; providing an exemption from public meetings 10 11 requirements for portions of elder abuse fatality 12 review team meetings at which exempt or confidential 13 and exempt information or the identity of an elder abuse victim is discussed; providing an exemption from 14 15 public records requirements for records created by an 16 elder abuse fatality review team during those portions 17 of such meetings; providing for future legislative 18 review and repeal; providing statements of public 19 necessity; providing an effective date.

20

21

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

2223

24

25

Section 1. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 415.1103, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that section

Page 1 of 4

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

26 to read:

- 415.1103 Elder abuse fatality review teams; public records and meetings exemptions.—
- (5) (a) Any information obtained by an elder abuse fatality review team conducting a review under this section which is exempt or confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.

 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution shall retain its exempt or confidential and exempt status when held by the elder abuse fatality review team.
- (b) Any information contained in a record created by an elder abuse fatality review team which reveals the identity of a victim of elder abuse is confidential and exempt from s.

 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- (c)1. Those portions of meetings of an elder abuse fatality review team at which exempt or confidential and exempt information or the identity of a victim of elder abuse is discussed are exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- 2. Any records created by an elder abuse fatality review team during those portions of meetings that are exempt under subparagraph 1. are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.
- (d) This subsection is subject to the Open Government

 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand

 repealed on October 2, 2027, unless reviewed and saved from

Page 2 of 4

repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

section 2. (1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that information that is exempt or confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution remain exempt or confidential and exempt when held by an elder abuse fatality review team and that any information contained in a record created by an elder abuse fatality review team which reveals the identity of a victim of elder abuse be made confidential and exempt from public records requirements. Otherwise, sensitive personal information regarding victims of elder abuse would be disclosed, and open communication and coordination among the participants of elder abuse fatality review teams would be hampered. The harm that would result from the release of such information substantially outweighs any public benefit that would be achieved by its disclosure.

(2) The Legislature also finds that it is a public necessity that those portions of meetings of an elder abuse fatality review team at which exempt or confidential and exempt information or the identity of a victim of elder abuse is discussed be made exempt from s. 286.011, Florida Statutes, and s. 24(b), Article I of the State Constitution. The failure to close portions of meetings at which exempt or confidential and exempt information or the identity of a victim of elder abuse is discussed would defeat the purpose of the public records

76

77

78

79

80

8182

83

84

85

86

finds that records created by an elder abuse fatality review
team during those portions of meetings that are closed to the
public must be protected for the same reasons that justify the
closing of those meetings. Furthermore, the Legislature finds
that the public records and meetings exemptions are narrowly
tailored to apply to only certain portions of meetings of elder
abuse fatality review teams and the records created by such
teams during those portions of such meetings to allow for public
oversight.

Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 2022.

Page 4 of 4