

26 to read:

27 (7) PUBLIC RECORDS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS EXEMPTION.—

28 (a) Information related to a cybersecurity incident or
29 ransomware incident held by a local government, state agency, or
30 sheriff pursuant to this section or s. 252.351 is confidential
31 and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State
32 Constitution to the extent that disclosure of such information
33 would facilitate unauthorized access to or the unauthorized
34 modification, disclosure, or destruction of:

35 1. Data or information, whether physical or virtual; or

36 2. Information technology resources, including, but not
37 limited to, the following:

38 a. Information relating to the security of the local
39 government's technologies, processes, and practices designed to
40 protect networks, computers, data processing software, and data
41 from attack, damage, or unauthorized access.

42 b. Security information, whether physical or virtual,
43 which relates to the local government's existing or proposed
44 information technology systems.

45 (b) Information made confidential and exempt under
46 paragraph (a) may be disclosed by a local government, state
47 agency, or sheriff:

48 1. In the furtherance of his, her, or its official duties
49 and responsibilities.

50 2. To another governmental entity in the furtherance of

51 his, her, or its statutory duties and responsibilities.

52 (c) Any portion of a meeting that would reveal information
53 made confidential and exempt under paragraph (a) is exempt from
54 s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution. An
55 exempt portion of a meeting may not be off the record and must
56 be recorded and transcribed. The recording and transcript are
57 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I
58 of the State Constitution.

59 (d) This subsection is subject to the Open Government
60 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand
61 repealed on October 2, 2027, unless reviewed and saved from
62 repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

63 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
64 necessity that information related to a cybersecurity incident
65 or ransomware incident held a local government, state agency, or
66 sheriff pursuant to s. 282.3185, Florida Statutes, or s.
67 252.351, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from
68 s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the
69 State Constitution to the extent that disclosure of such
70 information would facilitate unauthorized access to or the
71 unauthorized modification, disclosure, or destruction of data or
72 information, whether physical or virtual, or information
73 technology resources. Such information includes proprietary
74 information about the security of a local government system and
75 disclosure of that information could result in the

76 identification of vulnerabilities and further breaches of the
77 local government system. In addition, the disclosure of such
78 information could compromise the integrity of a local
79 government's data, information, or information technology
80 resources, which would significantly impair the administration
81 of vital programs. Therefore, this information should be made
82 confidential and exempt in order to protect the local
83 government's data, information, and information technology
84 resources. The Legislature also finds that it is a public
85 necessity that any portion of a meeting in which the
86 confidential and exempt information is discussed be made exempt
87 from s. 286.011, Florida Statutes, and s. 24(b), Article I of
88 the State Constitution, and that any recordings and transcripts
89 of those portions of a meeting in which the confidential and
90 exempt information is discussed be made confidential and exempt
91 from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of
92 the State Constitution. The failure to close that portion of a
93 meeting at which confidential and exempt information is
94 discussed, and prevent the disclosure of the recordings and
95 transcripts of those portions of a meeting, would defeat the
96 purpose of the underlying public records exemption and could
97 result in the release of highly sensitive information related to
98 the cybersecurity of a local government system. For these
99 reasons, the Legislature finds that these public records and
100 public meetings exemptions are of the utmost importance and are

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101 | a public necessity.

102 | Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date
103 | that HB 7055 or similar legislation takes effect, if such
104 | legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
105 | extension thereof and becomes law.