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An act relating to public records; amending s. 655.057, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain information received by the Office of Financial Regulation pursuant to an application for authority to organize a new state bank; defining the term "personal identifying information"; providing for future legislative review

and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of

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

public necessity; providing an effective date.

Section 1. Present subsections (5) through (14) of section 655.057, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) through (15), respectively, a new subsection (5) is added to that section, and present subsection (14) of that section is amended, to read:

655.057 Records; limited restrictions upon public access.—
(5)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section and except for those portions that are otherwise public record, the following information received by the office pursuant to an application for authority to organize a new state bank under chapter 658 is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

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1. Personal financial information.

- 2. A driver license number, a passport number, a military identification number, or any other similar number issued on a government document used to verify identity.
- 3. Books and records of a current or proposed financial institution.
- 4. The personal identifying information of a shareholder, subscriber, proposed officer, or proposed director of the proposed state bank when such information has been marked by the applicant as confidential when submitted to the office. As used in this subparagraph, the term "personal identifying information" means names, home addresses, e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, names of relatives, work experience, professional licensing and educational backgrounds, and photographs.
- 5. The proposed state bank's business plan and any attached supporting documentation when such information has been marked by the applicant as confidential when submitted to the office.
- (b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government

  Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and is repealed on October 2, 2026, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.
- (15) (14) Subsections (1), (2), (6), and (10) (5), and (9) are subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in

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

accordance with s. 119.15 and are repealed on October 2, 2022, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

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Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that certain information received by the Office of Financial Regulation pursuant to an application for authority to organize a new state bank under chapter 658, Florida Statutes, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution to the extent that disclosure would reveal personal financial information; reveal a driver license number, a passport number, a military identification number, or any other similar number issued on a government document used to verify identity; reveal books and records of a current or proposed financial institution; reveal the personal identifying information of a shareholder, subscriber, proposed officer, or proposed director; or reveal a proposed state bank's business plan and any attached supporting documentation. The office may receive sensitive personal, financial, and business information in conjunction with its duties related to the review of applications for the organization or establishment of new state banks. An exemption from public records requirements is necessary to ensure the office's ability to administer its regulatory duties while preventing unwarranted damage to the proposed state bank or the shareholders, subscribers, proposed officers, or proposed

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directors of the proposed state bank or other financial institutions in this state. The release of information that could lead to the identification of an individual involved in the potential establishment of a new state bank may subject such individual to retribution and jeopardize his or her current employment with, or participation in the affairs of, another financial institution. Thus, the public availability of such information has a chilling effect on the establishment of new state banks. Further, the public availability of the books and financial records of a current or proposed financial institution in this state presents an unnecessary risk of harm to the business operations of such institution. Finally, the public availability of a proposed state bank's business plan may cause competitive harm to such bank's future business operations and presents an unfair competitive advantage for existing financial institutions that are not required to release such information. Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

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