1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to public records; amending s. 3 119.071, F.S.; expanding an exemption from public 4 records requirements for certain records identifying 5 victims of crime; providing for future legislative 6 review and repeal of the expansion of the exemption; 7 amending s. 960.00012, F.S.; providing an exemption 8 from public records requirements for information or 9 records that could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family; providing for future 10 11 legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing a 12 13 contingent effective date.

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

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- Section 1. Paragraph (j) of subsection (2) of section 119.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of public records.—
 - (2) AGENCY INVESTIGATIONS. -
- (j)1. Any document that reveals the identity, home or employment telephone number, home or employment address, or personal assets of the victim of a crime and identifies that person as the victim of a crime, which document is received by

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any agency that regularly receives information from or concerning the victims of crime, is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Any information not otherwise held confidential or exempt from s. 119.07(1) which reveals the home or employment telephone number, home or employment address, or personal assets of a person who has been the victim of sexual battery, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated battery, or domestic violence is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, upon written request by the victim, which must include official verification that an applicable crime has occurred. Such information shall cease to be exempt 5 years after the receipt of the written request. Any state or federal agency that is authorized to have access to such documents by any provision of law shall be granted such access in the furtherance of such agency's statutory duties, notwithstanding this section.

2.a. Any information in a videotaped statement of a minor who is alleged to be or who is a victim of sexual battery, lewd acts, or other sexual misconduct proscribed in chapter 800 or in s. 794.011, s. 827.071, s. 847.012, s. 847.0125, s. 847.013, s. 847.0133, or s. 847.0145, which reveals that minor's identity, including, but not limited to, the minor's face; the minor's home, school, church, or employment telephone number; the minor's home, school, church, or employment address; the name of

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the minor's school, church, or place of employment; or the personal assets of the minor; and which identifies that minor as the victim of a crime described in this subparagraph, held by a law enforcement agency, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. Any governmental agency that is authorized to have access to such statements by any provision of law shall be granted such access in the furtherance of the agency's statutory duties, notwithstanding the provisions of this section.

b. A public employee or officer who has access to a videotaped statement of a minor who is alleged to be or who is a victim of sexual battery, lewd acts, or other sexual misconduct proscribed in chapter 800 or in s. 794.011, s. 827.071, s. 847.012, s. 847.0125, s. 847.013, s. 847.0133, or s. 847.0145 may not willfully and knowingly disclose videotaped information that reveals the minor's identity to a person who is not assisting in the investigation or prosecution of the alleged offense or to any person other than the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or a person specified in an order entered by the court having jurisdiction of the alleged offense. A person who violates this provision commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. The amendment made by this act to s. 119.071(2)(j), Florida Statutes, is subject to the Open

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Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15,
Florida Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029,
unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the
Legislature and the text of those subsections shall revert to
that in existence on July 1, 2024, except that any amendments to
such text enacted other than by this act shall be preserved and
continue to operate to the extent that such amendments are not
dependent upon the amendments to the text which expire pursuant
to this section.

Section 3. Paragraph (k) is added to subsection (1) of section 960.00012, Florida Statutes, as created by HB 1605, to read:

960.00012 Rights a victim may opt to exercise.-

- (1) A crime victim may elect to exercise any or all of the following rights by providing or filing notice on a form designated by the Attorney General to the state attorney or law enforcement.
- (k) Information or records that could be used to locate or harass the victim or the victim's family is exempt from s.

 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution unless the victim opts to the release of such information or records as a public record. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15, Florida Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the

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Legislature.

Section 4. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that any information or records that could be used to locate or harass a crime victim or the victim's family be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. The Legislature finds that the release of any such information or records that could be used to locate or harass a crime victim or the victim's family could subject such victims or their families to further trauma. The Legislature further finds that such victims would be more likely to come forward and seek redress if all such personal identifying information is protected from public disclosure. The Legislature finds that the harm that may result from the release of such information outweighs the public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of the information.

Section 5. This act shall take effect on the same date that HB 1605 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a law.