

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1596

An act relating to public records; providing an exemption from public records requirements for court documents that might identify a pregnant minor who petitions for a waiver of the notice requirements pertaining to her request to have her pregnancy terminated; providing findings of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. When a minor petitions a circuit court for a waiver of the notice requirements pertaining to a minor seeking to terminate her pregnancy, any information in documents related to the petition which could be used to identify the minor is confidential and exempt from section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and Section 24 (a) of Article I of the State Constitution.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that information in court records identifying a minor who has petitioned the court for a waiver of parental notification requirements be confidential and exempt from public records requirements because disclosure of such information is not in the best interest of the minor. In addition, the Legislature finds that public disclosure of identifying information may expose minors who have been physically abused, sexually abused, or neglected by a parent or guardian to the risk of retribution.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date that Senate Bill 1598 or similar legislation creating the "Parental Notice of Abortion Act" takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension thereof.

Approved by the Governor June 11, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 11, 1999.