

Senate Bill No. 2082

An act relating to public records; exempting information that identifies parents who leave newborn infants at hospitals from public records requirements; providing legislative findings; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. The identity of a parent who leaves a newborn infant at a hospital or a fire station in accordance with section 383.50, Florida Statutes, is confidential and exempt from the provisions of section 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and Section 24(a) of Article I of the State Constitution. The identity of a parent leaving a child shall be disclosed to a person claiming to be a parent of the newborn infant. This section is subject to the Open Government Review Act of 1995 in accordance with section 119.15, Florida Statutes, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2005, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that the preservation of anonymity and confidentiality of parents who leave newborn infants with hospitals will encourage parents to leave infants safely and thus protect the life and health of those infants. The Legislature further finds that the public policy enunciated for the creation of section 383.50, Florida Statutes, will be served if the anonymity of parents who leave newborns with hospitals can be maintained.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000, but it shall not take effect unless Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 2080 or similar legislation creating section 383.50, Florida Statutes, relating to leaving newborn infants at hospitals is enacted at the 2000 Regular Session or an extension thereof.

Approved by the Governor June 5, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 5, 2000.