

Senate Bill No. 318

An act relating to public records; amending s. 787.03, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for information provided to sheriffs and state attorneys by persons who take minor children when fleeing from domestic violence; providing for future review and repeal; providing findings of public necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (6) of section 787.03, Florida Statutes, as amended by SB ____, to read:

787.03 Interference with custody.—

(6)

(c) Information provided to a sheriff or state attorney under paragraph (b) is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15 and is repealed on October 2, 2005, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature before that date.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that exempting information provided to sheriffs and state attorneys under section 787.03(6)(b), Florida Statutes, by persons fleeing from domestic violence or the threat of it is a public necessity. The information is of a sensitive, personal nature and concerns individuals who are under threat of physical and psychological harm if their whereabouts is revealed.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000, but it shall not take effect if Senate Bill ____, or similar legislation requiring certain identifying information to be filed by persons who take minor children when fleeing situations of domestic violence, does not become a law.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2000.