

CHAPTER 2018-77

House Bill No. 7053

An act relating to public records; amending s. 119.071, F.S.; creating an exemption from public records requirements for specified United States Census Bureau address information held by an agency; providing an exception to the exemption; authorizing access to other related confidential or exempt information; providing for future legislative review and repeal of the exemption; providing a statement of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of section 119.071, Florida Statutes, to read:

119.071 General exemptions from inspection or copying of public records.—

(1) AGENCY ADMINISTRATION.—

(g)l. United States Census Bureau address information, including maps showing structure location points, agency records that verify addresses, and agency records that identify address errors or omissions, which is held by an agency pursuant to the Local Update of Census Addresses Program authorized under 13 U.S.C. s. 16, is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

2. Such information may be released to another agency or governmental entity in the furtherance of its duties and responsibilities under the Local Update of Census Addresses Program.

3. An agency performing duties and responsibilities under the Local Update of Census Addresses Program shall have access to any other confidential or exempt information held by another agency if such access is necessary in order to perform its duties and responsibilities under the program.

4. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that United States Census Bureau address information, including maps showing structure location points, agency records that verify addresses, and agency records that identify address errors or omissions, which is held by an agency be made confidential and exempt from public records requirements. Pursuant to the Local Update of Census Addresses Program authorized under 13 U.S.C. s. 16, United States Census Bureau address information

must be kept confidential. Further, all individuals directly involved in reviewing such information and any individuals with access to such information are required to sign a confidentiality agreement to preserve the confidentiality of the address information. Without this exemption, agencies would be prevented from participating in the program. As such, the effective and efficient administration of the Local Update of Census Addresses Program would be hindered at the federal level. Further, it could result in a negative fiscal impact on the state. For the foregoing reasons, the Legislature finds that such information must be made confidential and exempt from public records requirements.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 2018.

Filed in Office Secretary of State March 21, 2018.