

CHAPTER 2022-134

House Bill No. 159

An act relating to public records; amending s. 24.1051, F.S.; creating a temporary exemption from public records for the names of lottery winners who win prizes of more than a specified value; 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. Present subsections (3) and (4) of section 24.1051, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (4) and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

24.1051 Exemptions from inspection or copying of public records.—

(3)(a) The name of a winner of a prize valued at \$250,000 or more is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution for 90 days from the date the prize is claimed, unless the winner consents to the release of his or her name or as provided for in s. 24.115(4) or s. 409.2577. After 90 days, the winner's name is no longer confidential and exempt.

(b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2027, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the name of a winner of a lottery prize valued at \$250,000 or more be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution for 90 days from the date the prize is claimed, unless such exemption is waived by the winner. Persons who win valuable lottery prizes have been the targets of violent and nonviolent criminal acts based upon publicly available identifying information. For this reason, the Legislature finds that it is a public necessity to temporarily maintain the confidential and exempt status of such information. The Legislature finds that the harm that may result from the release of the name of a winner of a lottery prize valued at \$250,000 or more outweighs the public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of the information.

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

Approved by the Governor May 25, 2022.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 25, 2022.