

CHAPTER 2025-168

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1652

An act relating to public records; amending s. 119.0714, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for a matter in a pleading, a request for relief, or other document which has been stricken by the court in a noncriminal case if the court makes specific findings; providing a statement of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (1) of section 119.0714, Florida Statutes, to read:

119.0714 Court files; court records; official records.—

(1) COURT FILES.—Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to exempt from s. 119.07(1) a public record that was made a part of a court file and that is not specifically closed by order of court, except:

(m) Any matter in a pleading, in a request for relief, or in any other document which has been stricken by the court in a noncriminal case pursuant to the rules of court if the court finds that such matter:

1. Is immaterial, impertinent, or sham; and
2. Would defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that an immaterial, impertinent, or sham matter that would defame or cause unwarranted damage to the good name or reputation of an individual or jeopardize the safety of an individual, and that has been stricken by a court in a noncriminal case, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. The Legislature finds that such stricken matters, if they remain in the public record, cause unwarranted and ongoing harm to affected persons and serve no identifiable public purpose. The Legislature further finds that the harm that may result from the release of such stricken matters outweighs any public benefit that may be derived from the disclosure of the stricken matter.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2025.