

CHAPTER 98-405

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1639

An act relating to public records; creating s. 741.465, F.S.; providing an exemption from public records requirements for certain personal information about program participants in the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence; providing exceptions; providing for future review and repeal; providing a finding of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 741.465, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

741.465 Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence; certain information exempt from disclosure.—The addresses, corresponding telephone numbers, and social security numbers of program participants in the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence are exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution, except the information may be disclosed under the following circumstances: to a law enforcement agency for purposes of assisting in the execution of a valid arrest warrant; if directed by a court order, to a person identified in the order; or if the certification has been canceled. For purposes of this section, the term “address” means a residential street address, school address, or work address, as specified on the individual’s application to be a program participant in the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence. This section is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2003, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the addresses, corresponding telephone numbers, and social security numbers of program participants in the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence be exempt from public records requirements. Release of this information would significantly threaten the safety and security of program participants. Therefore, the harm that would result from such release outweighs any public benefit that might result therefrom.

Section 3. This act shall take effect on the effective date of House Bill No. 1637, relating to the Address Confidentiality Program for Victims of Domestic Violence, or similar legislation enacted during the 1998 Regular Session of the Legislature.

Approved by the Governor June 11, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 11, 1998.