

## CHAPTER 2023-84

### Senate Bill No. 1210

An act relating to public records; amending s. 943.0583, F.S.; providing that a petition for human trafficking victim expunction and all pleadings and documents related to the petition are confidential and exempt from public records requirements; providing for future legislative review and repeal under the Open Government Sunset Review Act; providing a statement of public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section 943.0583, Florida Statutes, to read:

943.0583 Human trafficking victim expunction.—

(12)(a) A petition filed under this section and all pleadings and documents related to the petition are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(b) This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and is repealed on October 2, 2028, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that a petition filed under s. 943.0583, Florida Statutes, and all pleadings and documents related to the petition be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. Persons who are victims of human trafficking and who have been arrested, charged, or convicted of offenses committed, or reported to have been committed, as a result of being trafficked are themselves victims of crimes. These victims face barriers to employment and loss of other life opportunities, and the fact that the victims are seeking expungement, as well as the information contained in related pleadings and documents, would expose these victims to possible discrimination due to details of their past lives becoming public knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary that these petitions, pleadings, and related documents be made confidential in order for human trafficking victims to have the chance to rebuild their lives and reenter society.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor May 16, 2023.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 16, 2023.