

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to public records; amending s.  
 3           1002.42, F.S.; providing a public records exemption  
 4           for information pertaining to a safe-school officer at  
 5           a private school; providing for future legislative  
 6           review and repeal of the exemption; providing a  
 7           statement of public necessity; providing a contingent  
 8           effective date.

9  
 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
 12           Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (18) of  
 13           section 1002.42, Florida Statutes, as created by HB 543, 2023  
 14           Regular Session, to read:

15           1002.42 Private schools.—

16           (18) SAFE SCHOOL OFFICERS.—

17           (c) Any information that may identify whether a particular  
 18           individual has been assigned as a safe-school officer pursuant  
 19           to s. 1006.12 at a private school and that is held by a law  
 20           enforcement agency is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a),  
 21           Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to  
 22           the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s.  
 23           119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2028, unless  
 24           reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the  
 25           Legislature.

26           Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public  
27 necessity that any information that may identify whether a  
28 particular individual has been assigned as a safe-school officer  
29 at a private school and that is held by a law enforcement agency  
30 be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s.  
31 24(a), Article I of the State Constitution. School security and  
32 student safety are fundamental priorities in this state. Private  
33 schools should be provided options for a security presence  
34 similar to that established for school districts. To maximize  
35 the effectiveness of the presence of safe-school officers as a  
36 deterrent and in their role as first responders to incidents  
37 threatening the lives of students and school staff, safe-school  
38 officers may perform their school-related duties while carrying  
39 a weapon. Disclosure of the identity of a safe-school officer  
40 can affect his or her ability to adequately respond to an active  
41 assailant situation. Accordingly, it is necessary to protect the  
42 identity of safe-school officers from public records  
43 requirements in order to effectively and efficiently implement  
44 the purpose and intent of the program. Such personal identifying  
45 information of an individual assigned as a safe-school officer  
46 which is held by a law enforcement agency or public school is  
47 currently exempt from public records requirements.

48           Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date  
49 that HB 543 or similar legislation takes effect, if such  
50 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an

PCB JDC 23-01

ORIGINAL

2023

51 | extension thereof and becomes a law.