

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to public records; creating s. 16.64,
 3 F.S.; providing an exemption from public records
 4 requirements for the personal identifying information
 5 in an application submitted to the Department of Legal
 6 Affairs by, or on behalf of, a person seeking
 7 compensation through the Dozier School for Boys and
 8 Okeechobee School Victim Compensation Program;
 9 providing for future legislative review and repeal of
 10 the exemption; providing a statement of public
 11 necessity; providing a contingent effective date.

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

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 15 Section 1. Section 16.64, Florida Statutes, is created to
 16 read:

17 16.64 Applications for compensation through the Dozier
 18 School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation
 19 Program; public records exemption.- Any names, dates of birth,
 20 driver license numbers, social security numbers, home addresses,
 21 mailing addresses, telephone numbers, or electronic mail
 22 addresses in an application submitted to the Department of Legal
 23 Affairs by, or on behalf of, a person seeking compensation
 24 through the Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim
 25 Compensation Program is confidential and exempt from s.

26 | 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the
 27 | State Constitution, and shall not be disclosed except upon court
 28 | order. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset
 29 | Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15, Florida Statutes, and
 30 | shall stand repealed on October 2, 2029, unless reviewed and
 31 | saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

32 | Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
 33 | necessity that any names, dates of birth, driver license
 34 | numbers, social security numbers, home addresses, mailing
 35 | addresses, telephone numbers, or electronic mail addresses in an
 36 | application submitted to the Department of Legal Affairs by, or
 37 | on behalf of, a person seeking compensation through the Dozier
 38 | School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation
 39 | Program be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1),
 40 | Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State
 41 | Constitution, except upon court order. The Legislature finds
 42 | that the release of such personal identifying information,
 43 | except upon court order, could subject the persons applying for
 44 | compensation through the Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee
 45 | School Victim Compensation Program to further trauma should
 46 | their status as a victim of the Dozier School for Boys or the
 47 | Okeechobee School, or the nature of the abuse each victim
 48 | suffered there, be made public, and to the possibility of
 49 | harassment. The Legislature further finds that a victim of the
 50 | Dozier School for Boys or the Okeechobee School may be more

51 likely to come forward and apply for compensation through the
52 Dozier School for Boys and Okeechobee School Victim Compensation
53 Program if the personal identifying information in the
54 application is protected from public disclosure. The Legislature
55 finds that the harm that may result from the release of such
56 information outweighs the public benefit that may be derived
57 from the disclosure of such information.

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect on the same date
59 that HB 21 or similar legislation takes effect, if such
60 legislation is adopted in the same legislative session or an
61 extension thereof and becomes a law.