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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public records; amending s.
3 943.0583, F.S.; providing that a petition for human
4 trafficking victim expunction and all pleadings and
5 documents related to the petition are confidential and
6 exempt from public records requirements; providing for
7 future legislative review and repeal under the Open
8 Government Sunset Review Act; providing a statement of
9 public necessity; providing an effective date.

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

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

15 943.0583 Human trafficking victim expunction.—

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

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21 Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and is repealed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

24 Section 2. The Legislature finds that it is a public
25 necessity that a petition filed under s. 943.0583, Florida
26 Statutes, and all pleadings and documents related to the
27 petition be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1),
28 Florida Statutes, and s. 24(a), Article I of the State
29 Constitution. Persons who are victims of human trafficking and

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30 who have been arrested, charged, or convicted of offenses
31 committed, or reported to have been committed, as a result of
32 being trafficked are themselves victims of crimes. These victims
33 face barriers to employment and loss of other life
34 opportunities, and the fact that the victims are seeking
35 expungement, as well as the information contained in related
36 pleadings and documents, would expose these victims to possible
37 discrimination due to details of their past lives becoming
38 public knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary that these
39 petitions, pleadings, and related documents be made confidential
40 in order for human trafficking victims to have the chance to
41 rebuild their lives and reenter society.

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