A bill to be entitled
An act relating to public records and public meetings;
amending s. 943.082, F.S.; creating an exemption from
public records requirements for the identity of a
reporting party held by a specified entity; amending
s. 943.687, F.S.; providing an exemption from public
meetings requirements for portions of meetings of the
Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Commission at
which confidential or exempt information is discussed;
amending s. 1006.12, F.S.; providing an exemption from
public records requirements for information that would
identify whether a particular individual has been
appointed as a school marshal; providing for future
legislative review and repeal of the exemptions;
providing statements of public necessity for the
exemptions; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) is added to section 943.082,
Florida Statutes, as created by PCB APC 18-06, 2018 Regular
Session, to read:

943.082 School Safety Awareness Program.—
(6) The identity of the reporting party held by the
department, a law enforcement agency, or school officials is
confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 2. Effective upon becoming law, subsection (7) of s. 943.687, Florida Statutes, as created by PCB APC 18-06, is renumbered as subsection (8) and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

(7) Any portion of a meeting of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Commission at which confidential or exempt information is discussed is exempt from s. 286.011 and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 3. Subsection (5) is added to section 1006.12, Florida Statutes, to read:

1006.12 School resource officers, and school safety officers, and school marshals.—

(5) Any information that would identify whether a particular individual has been appointed as a school marshal pursuant to this section held by a law enforcement agency, school district, or charter school is exempt from s. 119.07(1)
and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. This subsection is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

Section 4. (1) The Legislature finds that it is a public necessity that the identity of a person reporting unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or the threat of these activities, held by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, a law enforcement agency, or school officials, be made confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution if the reporting person provides his or her identity. The public record exemption for the identity of those individuals reporting potentially harmful or threatening activities as part of the School Safety Awareness Program encourages individuals to act and not be fearful that their identities will be revealed to their fellow students. Without the public record exemption, individuals reporting such activities might be less willing to report their knowledge of these possible activities to the appropriate authorities out of fear. Ensuring their identities are protected will encourage reporting, which could lead to law enforcement or other appropriate agencies intervening before an incident of mass violence occurs.

(2) The Legislature also finds that it is a public
necessity that any portion of a meeting of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Commission at which confidential or exempt information is discussed be made exempt from s. 286.011, Florida Statutes, and s. 24(b), Art. I of the State Constitution. The purpose of the commission is to investigate failures in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting and prior mass violence incidents in Florida and develop recommendations for system improvements. In order to fulfill its directive, the commission must be able to discuss confidential or exempt information that it receives as part of its investigation. The public meeting exemption will allow the commission to review and discuss confidential or exempt information that will be useful in forming meaningful recommendations for system improvements for prevention and response to mass violence incidents. As such, it is a necessity that those portions of meetings wherein confidential or exempt information is discussed be made exempt from public meetings requirements. If such portions of meeting are not closed, then the public record exemptions would be negated. Thus, the Legislature finds that the public meeting exemption is a public necessity in order to ensure the effective and efficient administration of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Commission.

(3) The Legislature further finds that it is a public necessity that any information that would identify whether a particular individual has been appointed as a school marshal

CODING: Words **stricken** are deletions; words *underlined* are additions.
held by a law enforcement agency, school district, or charter
school be made exempt from s. 119.07(1), Florida Statutes, and
s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. School security and
student safety are fundamental priorities in this state. In
light of the tragic events at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High
School, in which 14 students and 3 adults were shot and killed
on February 14, 2018, school districts in this state must be
allowed to provide a supplemental security presence. To maximize
the effectiveness of school marshals as a deterrent and
responsive factor to situations threatening the lives of
students and school staff, school marshals may perform their
school-related duties while carrying a concealed weapon.
Disclosure of the identity of a school marshal can affect his or
her ability to adequately respond to an active assailant
situation. Accordingly, it is necessary to protect the identity
of school marshals from public records requirements in order to
effectively and efficiently implement the purpose and intent of
the marshal program.

Section 5. Except as otherwise provided, this act shall
take effect on the same date that PCB APC 18-06 or similar
legislation takes effect, if such legislation is adopted in the
same legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes a
law.