Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments^{*}



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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 141 126th General Assembly (S. Judiciary – Criminal Justice)

Regarding the provision that currently exempts "peace officer, firefighter, and EMT personal and familial information" (a defined term) from the definition of "public record" that applies to the Public Records Law and that the House-passed version of the bill expanded to also apply to specified information concerning prosecuting attorneys (generally), assistant prosecuting attorneys, correctional employees, and youth services employees (subject to a "journalist exception"): (1) further expanded the provision to also apply to the specified information concerning parole officers (subject to the "journalist exception"), (2) eliminated the name change the House-passed version made to the term (the name was changed to "information incidental to the employment of a peace officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, or EMT") and instead expands the current name of the term so that it is "peace officer, parole officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, and EMT personal and familial information," (3) expanded the specified information under the exemption to also include information that discloses a photograph of a peace officer who holds a position or has an assignment that may include undercover or plainclothes positions or assignments as determined by the peace officer's appointing authority, and (4) eliminated a statement in the House-passed version that specified that "information incidental to the employment of a peace officer, prosecuting attorney, assistant prosecuting attorney, correctional employee, youth services employee, firefighter, or EMT does not include information contained in records filed in court" (R.C. 149.43(A)(1)(p), (A)(7), and (B)(5)).

Regarding the provisions that currently impose restrictions upon the disclosure, or the ordered disclosure, in criminal cases of the home address of a peace officer and that the House-passed version of the bill expanded to also impose the restrictions regarding the home address of correctional employees and youth services employees, further expanded the provisions so that the restrictions also apply regarding the home addresses of parole officers, prosecuting attorneys, and assistant prosecuting attorneys (R.C. 2921.24 and 2921.25).

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^{*} This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.