

CS/HB 1443

2024

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to electronic access to official  
3           records; amending s. 28.2221, F.S.; requiring the  
4           county recorder or clerk of the court to make certain  
5           information publicly available through a searchable  
6           database on the county recorder's or clerk of the  
7           court's official website; authorizing such requirement  
8           to be satisfied by providing a link to the official  
9           records index; providing requirements for such link;  
10          providing requirements for certain notices; providing  
11          an effective date.

12  
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
14

15           Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 28.2221, Florida  
16           Statutes, is amended to read:

17           28.2221 Electronic access to official records.—

18           (8)(a) Each county recorder or clerk of the court must  
19           make the identity of each respondent against whom a final  
20           judgment for an injunction for the protection of a minor under  
21           s. 741.30, s. 784.046, or s. 784.0485 is entered, as well as the  
22           fact that a final judgment for an injunction for the protection  
23           of a minor under s. 741.30, s. 784.046, or s. 784.0485 has been  
24           entered against that respondent, publicly available on the  
25           county recorder's or clerk of the court's official website ~~an~~

26 ~~Internet website for general public display, which may include~~  
 27 ~~the Internet website required by this section, unless the~~  
 28 respondent is a minor. The identity and information required  
 29 under this subsection must be viewable through a searchable  
 30 database that is available in a clear and conspicuous location  
 31 on the homepage of the county recorder's or clerk of the court's  
 32 official website and must be available for search by the general  
 33 public.

34 (b) The requirement in paragraph (a) may be satisfied by  
 35 providing a stand-alone link to the official records index. The  
 36 link must be located in a clear and conspicuous location on the  
 37 homepage of the county recorder's or clerk of the court's  
 38 official website and must be available for search by the general  
 39 public. The link must be titled in a manner that clearly informs  
 40 the user that by clicking the link, the user will be redirected  
 41 to a searchable database on which information available pursuant  
 42 to this subsection relating to the identity of a respondent  
 43 against whom a final judgment for injunction for the protection  
 44 of a minor can be found.

45 (c)-(b) Any information specified in this subsection not  
 46 made available by the county ~~recorder or~~ clerk of the court as  
 47 provided in this subsection ~~on a publicly available Internet~~  
 48 ~~website for general public display~~ before July 1, 2024 ~~2021~~,  
 49 must be made publicly available on the county recorder's or  
 50 clerk of the court's official ~~an Internet website~~ if the

51 affected party identifies the information and requests that such  
52 information be added ~~to a publicly available Internet website~~  
53 for general public display. Such request must be in writing and  
54 delivered by mail, facsimile, or electronic transmission or in  
55 person to the county recorder or clerk of the court. The request  
56 must specify the case number assigned to the final judgment for  
57 an injunction for the protection of a minor under s. 741.30, s.  
58 784.046, or s. 784.0485. A fee may not be charged for the  
59 addition of information pursuant to such request.

60 (d)~~(e)~~ No later than 30 days after July 1, 2024 ~~2021~~,  
61 notice of the right of any affected party to request the  
62 addition of information to the searchable database on the county  
63 recorder's or clerk of the court's official ~~a publicly available~~  
64 ~~Internet~~ website pursuant to this subsection must ~~shall~~ be  
65 conspicuously and clearly displayed by the county recorder or  
66 clerk of the court on the county recorder's or clerk of the  
67 court's official ~~publicly available Internet~~ website on which  
68 images or copies of the county's public records are placed and  
69 in the office of each county recorder or clerk of the court.  
70 Such notice must contain appropriate instructions for making the  
71 addition of information request in person, by mail, by  
72 facsimile, or by electronic transmission. The notice must state,  
73 in substantially similar form, that any person has a right to  
74 request that a county recorder or clerk of the court add  
75 information to the searchable database on the county recorder's

76 | or clerk of the court's official ~~a publicly available Internet~~  
77 | website if that information involves the identity of a  
78 | respondent against whom a final judgment for an injunction for  
79 | the protection of a minor under s. 741.30, s. 784.046, or s.  
80 | 784.0485 is entered, unless the respondent is a minor. The  
81 | notice must also state that the information related to the  
82 | identity of each respondent against whom a final judgment for an  
83 | injunction for the protection of a minor under s. 741.30, s.  
84 | 784.046, or s. 784.0485 is entered is available for search by  
85 | the general public. The notice must include step-by-step  
86 | instructions detailing how a user can access the searchable  
87 | database and search for such information. Such request must be  
88 | made in writing and delivered by mail, facsimile, or electronic  
89 | transmission or in person to the county recorder or clerk of the  
90 | court. The request must specify the case number assigned to the  
91 | final judgment for an injunction for the protection of a minor  
92 | under s. 741.30, s. 784.046, or s. 784.0485. A fee may not be  
93 | charged for the addition of a document pursuant to such request.

94 | (e) ~~(d)~~ Any affected person may petition the circuit court  
95 | for an order directing compliance with this subsection.

96 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.