

Senate

General Assembly

File No. 296

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 1433

Senate, March 27, 2025

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT EXEMPTING THE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 1-217 of the general statutes is
 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 1, 2025):

(a) No public agency may disclose, under the Freedom of Information
Act, from its personnel, medical or similar files, the residential address
of any of the following persons employed by such public agency:

7 (1) A federal court judge, federal court magistrate, judge of the
8 Superior Court, Appellate Court or Supreme Court of the state, or
9 family support magistrate;

10 (2) A sworn member of a municipal police department, a sworn 11 member of the Division of State Police within the Department of

12	Emergency Services and Public Protection or a sworn law enforcement		
13	officer within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection;		
14	(3) An employee of the Department of Correction;		
15	(4) An attorney-at-law who represents or has represented the state in		
16	a criminal prosecution;		
17	(5) An attorney-at-law who is or has been employed by the Division		
18 19	of Public Defender Services or a social worker who is employed by the Division of Public Defender Services;		
20	(6) An inspector employed by the Division of Criminal Justice;		
21	(7) A firefighter;		
22	(8) An employee of the Department of Children and Families;		
23	(9) A member or employee of the Board of Pardons and Paroles;		
24	(10) An employee of the judicial branch;		
25	(11) An employee of the Department of Mental Health and Addiction		
26	Services who provides direct care to patients;		
27	(12) A member or employee of the Commission on Human Rights		
28	and Opportunities; [or]		
29	(13) A state marshal appointed by the State Marshal Commission		
30	pursuant to section 6-38b <u>; or</u>		
31	(14) An employee of the office of the Attorney General.		
	This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
	Section 1	October 1, 2025	1-217(a)

GAE Joint Favorable

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill extends existing provisions exempting personnel and medical files from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act to include employees of the Office of the Attorney General and empowers them to request address confidentiality under certain circumstances resulting in no fiscal impact to the state.

The Out Years

State Impact: None Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1433

AN ACT EXEMPTING THE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

SUMMARY

This bill adds Office of the Attorney General (OAG) employees to the list of individuals covered by the Freedom of Information Act's (FOIA) limitation on disclosing home addresses (see BACKGROUND). In doing so, it prohibits OAG from disclosing, under FOIA, its employees' home addresses from the office's personnel, medical, or similar files.

The bill also allows OAG employees to request address confidentiality from other public agencies (and from OAG with respect to records besides those described above). To do so, OAG employees must follow existing law's procedures for other covered individuals, including by submitting to the agency a written request with his or her business address.

An agency that receives a FOIA request about an OAG employee who requested address confidentiality must redact the employee's home address only from records provided in response to a request that specifically names the employee. Additionally, the agency must make reasonable efforts to redact the employee's address from (1) an existing list derived from a readily accessible electronic database and (2) any list that the agency voluntarily creates in response to a disclosure request. The law permits disclosure of a covered individual's residential address in any other type of record (other than OAG's personnel, medical, or similar files, as described above).

As under existing law for other covered individuals, the disclosure

prohibition does not apply to OAG employees' home addresses contained in (1) documents eligible to be recorded in municipal land records; (2) any list required by the state's election laws (e.g., voter registry lists, petition forms, and logs of absentee ballot applications); or (3) municipal grand lists.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND

Covered Individuals

Under existing law, the following public officials and employees, among others, are covered by FOIA's home address disclosure limitation:

- 1. Connecticut Superior and Appellate Court judges, Supreme Court justices, and family support magistrates;
- 2. sworn members of municipal police departments or the State Police;
- 3. employees of the judicial branch and the departments of Correction and Children and Families;
- 4. attorneys who represent the state in a criminal prosecution;
- 5. Public Defender Services Division attorneys and social workers;
- 6. Division of Criminal Justice inspectors;
- 7. firefighters;
- 8. members and employees of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities; and
- 9. Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services employees who provide direct patient care.

Related Bills

SB 1226 (File 125), favorably reported by the Government

Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee, generally exempts from disclosure under FOIA records maintained or kept by or for public higher education institution faculty or staff arising out of teaching or research on medical, artistic, scientific, legal, or other scholarly issues.

SB 1233 (File 131), favorably reported by the GAE Committee, generally exempts from disclosure under FOIA the name and address of the person reporting an incident involving alleged bigotry or bias, and the alleged offender, in reports to law enforcement or a database for reporting these allegations established by UConn's Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy.

HB 6883 (File 82), favorably reported by the Government Oversight Committee, (1) exempts any information indicating the location of a shelter or transitional housing for sexual assault victims from disclosure required under FOIA and (2) requires a public agency meeting's discussion about them to be held in executive session if it would reveal the shelter's or housing's location.

HB 6850 (File 146), favorably reported by the GAE Committee, generally (1) expands FOIA's limitation on disclosing a home address in an agency's personnel, medical, or similar files to generally cover all of the agency's employees, rather than just specified groups of employees and individuals (e.g., certain judges and police officers); and (2) extends to all public agency employees provisions in existing law that allow covered individuals to also request address confidentiality for other types of records.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 14 Nay 5 (03/12/2025)