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## 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)