



House Bill No. 6203

Public Act No. 21-114

AN ACT EXEMPTING CERTAIN RECORDS CONCERNING NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURAL KNOWLEDGE FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.

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

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) As used in this section, (1) "records of traditional cultural knowledge" means records containing information central to a community's cultural and social identity, including, but not limited to, religious rites and rituals, location of sacred sites, kinship membership statistics and oral histories and traditions; (2) "tribal nation" means any Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization, as defined under NAGPRA, or any tribe recognized by one or more state governments; and (3) "NAGPRA" means the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 USC 3001 et seq.

(b) Any record of traditional cultural knowledge submitted by a member, representative or lineal descendant of a tribal nation to any public agency, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes, as part of the consultation process to determine cultural affiliation under NAGPRA and its implementing regulations, 43 CFR 10, shall not be deemed a public record and shall not be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, as defined in section 1-200 of the general statutes.

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Approved July 7, 2021