



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 504**

January Session, 2021

House Bill No. 6576

*House of Representatives, April 19, 2021*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. FOX of the 148th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE NONDISCLOSURE OF RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 1-217 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2021*):

4 (a) No public agency may disclose, under the Freedom of Information  
5 Act, from its personnel, medical or similar files, the residential address  
6 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 of Public Defender Services or a social worker who is employed by the  
19 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; [or]

27 (12) A member or employee of the Commission on Human Rights  
28 and Opportunities; [.] or

29 (13) 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, 2021	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.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

This bill, which adds Attorney General employees to the list of individuals covered by the Freedom of Information Act's limitation on disclosing the covered individuals' home addresses, has no fiscal impact.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

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**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6576*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE NONDISCLOSURE OF RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES OF CERTAIN EMPLOYEES 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 the covered individuals' home addresses (see BACKGROUND). In doing so, it prohibits OAG from disclosing 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 submitting a written request to the agency and providing it with his or her business address.

Such an agency that receives a FOIA request concerning an OAG employee must redact his or her home address only from records provided in response to a request that specifically names the covered individual. Additionally, the agency must make reasonable redaction efforts 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 request for disclosure. 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 also does not apply to home addresses of OAG employees 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, logs of absentee ballot applications); or (3) municipal grand lists.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Covered Individuals***

The following public officials and employees are covered by FOIA's home address disclosure limitation:

1. federal court judges and magistrates;
2. Connecticut Superior and Appellate Court judges, Supreme Court justices, and family support magistrates;
3. sworn members of municipal police departments or the State Police and sworn law enforcement officers in the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection;
4. employees of the Judicial Branch and the departments of Correction and Children and Families;
5. attorneys who represent or have represented the state in a criminal prosecution;
6. attorneys who are or have been employed by the Public Defender Services Division and social workers employed by the division;
7. Division of Criminal Justice inspectors;
8. firefighters;
9. members and employees of the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities; and
10. Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services employees

who provide direct patient care (CGS § 1-217).

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 16 Nay 3 (03/31/2021)