



January 27, 2021

Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee  
531 Knott Building  
404 S. Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Re: Open Government Bills before the Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee

The First Amendment Foundation writes to express our opposition to Senate Bill 7010, which will be heard by the Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security Committee on Tuesday, February 2, 2021. This bill is one of more than 20 trade secret exemption bills up for review this session. Now is an opportune time to let the myriad of trade secret exemptions sunset and enact a uniform definition and process to exclude trade secret. The misapplication and overuse of trade secret exemptions allows information about government contractors and private entities regulated by the state to be withheld from the public.

With dozens of trade secret exemptions subject to the Open Government Sunset Review this session, FAF is calling on the legislature to pass legislation like last year's HB 799 and HB 801, sponsored by Representative Tommy Gregory, which would have repealed most trade secret exemptions and provided a uniform trade secret exemption and process to remove trade secrets from public records.

Please let us know if you have any questions of if we can provide any additional information.

Best regards,

Pamela C. Marsh, President

cc: The Honorable Wilton Simpson, President, Florida Senate  
The Honorable Tommy Gregory, Florida House of Representatives  
Mr. Jim Baltzelle, Associated Press, Chair, First Amendment Foundation  
Mr. Samuel Morley, General Counsel, Florida Press Association  
Ms. Lisa Nellesen Savage, Chair, Florida Society of News Editors

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