

No. 129. An act relating to public records.

(H.863)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 1 V.S.A. § 317(c) is amended to read:

(c) The following public records are exempt from public inspection and copying:

* * *

(41) documents reviewed by the ~~Vietim's~~ Victims Compensation Board for purposes of approving an application for compensation pursuant to 13 V.S.A. chapter 167, except as provided by 13 V.S.A. §§ 5360 and 7043(c);

(42) except as otherwise provided by law, information that could be used to identify a complainant who alleges that a public agency, a public employee or official, or a person providing goods or services to a public agency under contract has engaged in a violation of law, or in waste, fraud, or abuse of authority, or in an act creating a threat to health or safety, unless the complainant consents to disclosure of his or her identity.

Sec. 2. IDENTIFYING VERMONT STATE HOSPITAL PATIENTS

BURIED IN CEMETERY AND ON HOSPITAL GROUNDS FROM
1891 TO 1913

Consistent with the goal of Joint Resolution No. R-109 (2013) to preserve the memory of individuals buried in the cemetery and on the grounds of the former Vermont State Hospital in Waterbury, and to enable the identification of individuals buried in unmarked graves so that these individuals will not be left unknown, the State of Vermont shall, upon request and notwithstanding

any provision of Vermont law, release records dating from 1891 to 1913 to the extent necessary to assist in the identification of patients buried in the Hospital's cemetery and on its grounds in unmarked graves from 1891 to 1913.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

Date Governor signed bill: May 14, 2014