ENROLLED

Regular Session, 2011

ACT No. 280

HOUSE BILL NO. 361

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:398(K)(1)(a), relative to accident reports; to provide for a definition of a news-gathering organization; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:398(K)(1)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§398. Accident reports; when and to whom made; information aid; fees for copies; fees for accident photographs

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K.(1)(a) The reports required by this Section, and the information contained in the reports, shall be confidential, shall be exempt from the provisions of R.S. 44:1 et seq., and shall be made available only: to the parties to the accident, parents or guardians of a minor who is a party to the accident, and insurers of any party which is the subject of the report; to the succession representatives of those parties, or to the attorneys of the parties or succession representatives; or to a news-gathering organization that requests documents related to the accident. Upon request, accident reports shall be made available to the above-enumerated persons within seven working days following the completion of the accident investigation. For the purposes of this Subsection~~;~~: "News-gathering organization" means any of the following:

(i) A newspaper, or news publication, printed or electronic, of current news and intelligence of varied, broad, and general public interest, having been published for a minimum of one year and that can provide documentation of membership in a statewide or national press association, as represented by an employee thereof who

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can provide documentation of his employment with the newspaper, wire service, or news publication.

(ii) A radio broadcast station, television broadcast station, cable television operator, or wire service as represented by an employee thereof who can provide documentation of his employment.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

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