STUDENTS: Provides relative to the collection and sharing of certain student information

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:3914(N), relative to personally identifiable information of public school students; to require the disclosure of social security numbers of certain students with parental consent; to provide for the sharing of information with the Louisiana Workforce Commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3914(N) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3914. Student information; privacy; legislative intent; definitions; prohibitions; parental access; penalties

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N.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, each public secondary school governing authority shall do the following:

(a) For the sole purpose of evaluating state and federal programs that prepare students for postsecondary education, workforce training, and employment, collect the social security number of each student in grades nine through twelve who is pursuing a diploma pursuant to R.S. 17:183.3, not later than the beginning of the student's senior year, subject to the permission of the student's parent or legal guardian.

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(b) Disclose the social security number with the company with which the state has contracted to develop unique student identifiers and the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

(c) At the beginning of each school year, provide a form to be signed by the parent or legal guardian of each student in grades nine through twelve who is pursuing a diploma pursuant to R.S. 17:183.3, whereby the parent or guardian shall either provide or deny consent for the collection and disclosure of his child's information as provided in Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph. The form shall include a statement that the purpose of the disclosure of the student's information is to evaluate and improve state and federal programs that prepare high school students for postsecondary education, workforce training, and employment, and will exclude other personally identifiable information.

(2) The company with which the state has contracted to develop the unique student identifier shall assign an identifier for each student who successfully completes high school from the lists provided by public school governing authorities and provide a list of unique identifiers and corresponding social security numbers to the commission for the purpose of matching the information with employment data including but not limited to wages.

(3) For the express purpose of state and federal program evaluation, the commission shall remove any and all social security numbers from the data and provide to the state Department of Education and the Industry-Based Certification Committee a list of high school graduates for whom employment data are available.

(4) Any exchange of student information pursuant to the provisions of this Subsection shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

(5) Any person who knowingly and willfully fails to maintain the confidentiality of personally identifiable information of students is subject to the penalties provided for in Subsection G of this Section.
The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 470 Original 2022 Regular Session McKnight

Abstract: Requires the collection and sharing of social security numbers of high school students pursuing a career major.

Present law prohibits an official or employee of a local public school system from requiring the collection of certain student information unless voluntarily disclosed by the parent or legal guardian. Further prohibits any employee of a public school system from providing a student's personally identifiable information to any person or public or private entity.

Present law defines personally identifiable information as information about an individual that can be used on its own or with other information to identify, contact, or locate a single individual.

Present law provides for exceptions to the prohibitions, including requiring public school governing authorities, with parental permission, to collect certain personally identifiable information for students in grades eight through 12. Authorizes the sharing of such information with La. postsecondary education institutions, the office of student financial assistance, and the Bd. of Regents for specific purposes.

Proposed law provides an additional exception. Requires public school governing authorities, with parental permission, to collect social security numbers of high school students pursuing a career major and share them with the La. Workforce Commission for the purpose of evaluating state and federal programs that prepare high school students for postsecondary education, workforce training, and employment. Provides for the commission to match the student information with employment data.

Present law provides that a person who violates present law shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than six months or by a fine of not more than $10,000. Such penalties apply to a violation of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 17:3914(N))

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