

---

## DIGEST

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 322 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Freeman

**Abstract:** Provides for the sharing of limited student information for the purposes of administering federal food assistance programs and for certain postsecondary education purposes.

### **Student information sharing, generally**

Present law prohibits any employee of a public school system from providing a student's personally identifiable information (P.I.I.) to any person or public or private entity. Provides exceptions to this prohibition and authorizes sharing student information under certain circumstances, including for purposes of administering federal food assistance programs and for certain postsecondary education purposes.

### **Federal food assistance programs**

Present law requires each public or nonpublic school or other entity that participates in a meal program through which students are eligible for the pandemic electronic benefits transfer program to share student information with the Dept. of Children and Family Services for the purpose of facilitating program administration, including but not limited to the automatic issuance of benefits to eligible families. Limits such information to first and last name, address, and date of birth of each student eligible for free or reduced price meals at school. Expects any student whose parent has chosen not to share information pursuant to the policy of the governing authority of the school or other entity.

The effectiveness of the present law provisions above terminates on June 10, 2021. Proposed law provides for the continued effectiveness of present law until December 31, 2022; adds a student's middle name, school site code, and student unique identifier to the list of information to be shared; and adds that information shall also be shared for purposes of administering the summer electronic benefits transfer program, subject to the same limitations and exceptions.

### **Postsecondary education**

Present law requires each public school governing authority, with the permission of a student's parent or legal guardian, to collect the following P.I.I. for each student enrolled in grades eight through 12:

- (1) Full name.
- (2) Date of birth.

- (3) Social security number.
- (4) Student transcript data.

Proposed law adds race and ethnicity data to this list.

Present law requires each public school governing authority share the above information, upon request, with certain postsecondary education entities for certain purposes. Proposed law additionally requires the company that the state contracts with to develop the student unique identifier to do the same and revises the recipients and purposes as follows:

- (1) Present law requires the information to be shared with a La. postsecondary education institution for the purpose of processing admission applications. Proposed law retains present law and provides the additional purpose of compliance with reporting requirements.
- (2) Present law requires the information to be shared with the Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA) for the purpose of processing grant applications and grant program reporting. Proposed law adds the Bd. of Regents as a recipient of the information for this purpose.
- (3) Present law requires the information to be shared with the Bd. of Regents, to be only used by board staff, for purposes of providing reports to each public school governing authority on the remediation needs, retention rates, and graduation rates for high schools and to evaluate comparative performance outcomes in order to develop policies designed to improve academic achievement. Proposed law retains present law but adds OFSA as a recipient of the information for these purposes and removes the provision that the information only be used by board staff.

Present law requires each public school governing authority to provide a form to be signed by the parent of each student in grades eight through 12 whereon the parent may consent or deny consent for the collection and disclosure of the student's information. Provides for allowable purposes to be specified on the form. Proposed law aligns the required form contents with present law and proposed law purposes.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action; Repeal of R.S. 17:3914(M), relative to the federal food assistance programs, is effective December 31, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 17:3914(K)(2) and (3)(c)(i) and (M); Adds R.S. 17:3914(K)(3)(c)(i); Repeals R.S. 17:3914(M))

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Relative to sharing student information for purposes of the food assistance programs:
  - (a) Authorize the sharing of additional student information.
  - (b) Add a "sunset" of Dec. 31, 2022.
2. Add provisions relative to sharing student information with certain entities for purposes related to postsecondary education.