

Subject Government data practices: educational data on parents

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Overview

“Directory information” refers to certain nonsensitive educational records that a school may publicly release without student or parent consent, if the school has gone through the process required by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of providing proper notice and an opportunity to opt out of the designation.

Directory information can include data about students or data about parents. In 2023, the legislature prohibited schools from designating a student’s personal contact information (home address, telephone number, etc.) as directory information. See [2023 Laws ch. 52, art. 19, § 76](#). But similar restrictions are not currently in place for a parent’s personal contact information.

This bill would prohibit schools from designating a parent’s personal contact information as publicly available directory information. It also contains a limited exception for certain voter outreach activity in connection with a school district referendum.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Student health and census data. Removes the current private classification for data on parents. This is moved to subdivision 5 in section 2 of the bill.
2	Directory information; data on parents. Reinserts the private classification for data on parents, with the new additional restriction that personal contact information may not be designated or treated as directory information.

Section	Description
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	Also adds an exception allowing parent personal contract information to be disclosed to election committees for purposes of voter outreach in a school district referendum.
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3	Effective date.
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	Provides that a parent's personal contact information must be treated as private data the day following final enactment of this bill, even if the data was previously designated as publicly available directory information.
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