Government Administration and Elections Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1520 AN ACT CONCERNING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FREEDOM OF Title: INFORMATION ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION RECORDS.
Vote Date: 3/26/2025
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/21/2025
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Government Administration and Elections Committee Rep. Gregory Haddad, 54th Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill would seek to apply the exemption for education records to the federal act as it existed on January 3, 2012. This was done to provide clarity on the language of the Connecticut Freedom of Information statutes to conform with the FERPA law as the Connecticut statue is tied directly to that federal provision.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Colleen Murphy, Executive Director, Freedom of Information Commission:

We approve of:

Line 4 – replacing "educational" with "education."

Line 6 – we are not aware of the need for such a proposal so we cannot comment further. We have submitted our same recommendations to the Government Oversight Committee in House Bill 6882.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Michael Carlo:

My daughter's private information was ascertained after a College Board Entrance Exam and distributed World-Wide. The College Board does adhere to the Family Education Rights Privacy Act however there is a Student Search Survey on the exam that does have an optional box to check for the student. I wish to have this legislative body address the concerns and prevent the Student Search Survey from being asked without parental permission. I have attached a link of how the New York Attorney General's office fined the College Board for illegally selling student information.

Reported by: Pamela Bianca

Date: April 2, 2025