

Government Oversight Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SB-325 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCLOSURE OF THE RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE CONCERNING MASS REQUESTS

Title: UNDER THE ACT.

Vote Date: 3/17/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute

PH Date: 3/3/2026

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep Reyes, Rep Nolan, Rep Sweet, Rep Manapace

REASONS FOR BILL:

Sec 1 adds certified teachers employed at public schools to the list of professionals whose residential addresses are exempt from FOIA.

Sec 2 establishes a taskforce to study individuals using AI to develop mass FOIA requests, and whether any changes in law are necessary to assist public agencies in handling those requests. This taskforce is required to submit a report to Government Oversight Committee (by January 1, 2027), detailing its findings and recommendations.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

Expands to all school employees and adds members to the task force (journalist, union member and Chief Court Administrator)

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

[Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner, Connecticut State Department of Education:](#) Commissioner Russel-Tucker submitted testimony supporting this bill, stating it would protect teachers' residential addresses under FOIA. She also recommended expanding the language to include teachers with initial certificates and to align the definition of "teacher" with existing state statute.

Paula Pearlman, Managing Director, Freedom of Information Commission: The Commission submitted testimony opposing the portion of this bill that would prohibit disclosure of teachers' residential addresses under FOIA, arguing such protections are limited in scope, difficult to enforce, and may raise transparency and constitutional concerns. It expressed openness to participating in a task force studying mass FOIA requests generated by AI.

External Affairs, Judicial Branch: The Judicial Branch submitted testimony offering general comments regarding this bill and recommended including a Judicial Branch representative on the proposed task force.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Leslie Blatteau, President, New Haven Federation of Teachers: Ms. Blatteau submitted testimony in support of this bill, stating it would protect public school teachers by preventing disclosure of their residential addresses under FOIA. She noted growing harassment and scrutiny of educators and supported creating a task force to examine mass FOIA requests.

John Dilorio: Mr. Dilorio submitted testimony stating that Connecticut law does not require the legislative branch to retain emails or other records related to public business. He argued this creates a transparency gap that allows legislative records to be deleted without violating records retention laws.

Jeremy Fiset, Public School Educator: Mr. Fiset submitted testimony supporting this bill, stating teachers' residential addresses should not be disclosed under FOIA to protect educators from harassment and safety risks.

Stacey Guertin, Public School Educator: Ms. Guertin submitted testimony in support of this bill, citing concerns about educator safety and the risk of harassment if personal contact information is disclosed, and emphasizing the need to protect teachers' privacy under FOIA.

Connecticut Association of Boards of Education: The organization submitted testimony requesting an amendment to this bill that would allow Superintendents of Schools to attend executive sessions of local and regional boards of education.

Chris Koulouris, Public School Educator: Mr. Koulouris submitted testimony in support of this bill, citing safety concerns and the risk of harassment if educators' personal information is disclosed, and emphasizing the need to protect teachers and their families under FOIA.

Jennifer Rodriguez, Public School Educator: Ms. Rodriguez submitted testimony in support of this bill, citing concerns about harassment and personal safety if educators' home addresses are disclosed, and emphasizing that such protections are necessary to allow educators to advocate and speak publicly without fear for themselves or their families.

Kate Dias and Joslyn DeLancey, Connecticut Education Association: Testimony was submitted supporting this bill, stating it would protect teachers by preventing disclosure of their residential addresses under FOIA amid increasing harassment and threats toward educators.

Ed Hawthorne, President, Connecticut AFL-CIO: Mr. Hawthorne submitted testimony supporting this bill, stating it would protect teachers' residential addresses under FOIA to help prevent harassment and safety risks for public employees and their families.

Jeffrey Helming, Public School Educator: Mr. Helming submitted testimony in support of this bill, stating educators' personal contact information should remain confidential to protect against harassment and ensure safety.

Drew Michael McWeeney, Assistant Professor of Early Childhood Education, CT State Community College–Norwalk: Mr. McWeeney submitted testimony supporting this bill, stating teachers' residential addresses should not be disclosed under FOIA to help protect educators from harassment and safety risks.

Fran Rabinowitz, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents: Ms. Rabinowitz submitted testimony supporting this bill, stating it would include teachers among public employees whose residential addresses are protected from disclosure under FOIA. She noted this protection would help safeguard educator privacy and safety as teachers increasingly engage with the public on sensitive issues.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Jodie Gil, Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information: Ms. Gil submitted testimony opposing the portion of this bill that would exempt teachers' residential addresses from FOIA, arguing it would limit transparency and provide only limited safety benefits. She supported the section creating a task force to study AI-generated mass FOIA requests and recommended including a journalist on the task force.

Jess Zaccagnino, Policy Counsel, ACLU of Connecticut: Ms. Zaccagnino submitted testimony opposing the portion of this bill that would exempt teachers' residential addresses from FOIA, arguing it would weaken government transparency, while supporting the section establishing a task force to study mass FOIA requests.

**Reported by: Clerk- Greg Wolf
Assistant Clerk- Mike Hamann**

Date: 3/20/26