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SENATE BILL 6326

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State of Washington

55th Legislature

1998 Regular Session

By Senators Schow, Rasmussen, Patterson, Horn, Zarelli, Stevens, Brown, Hochstatter, Swecker and Heavey

Read first time 01/15/98. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 AN ACT Relating to disclosure of social security numbers by schools  
2 and school districts; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) School districts and public schools may not request the  
7 disclosure of a student's federal social security number, except as  
8 provided in subsection (2) of this section.

9 (2)(a) A school district or public school may request the  
10 disclosure of a student's federal social security number for the  
11 purpose of seeking medicaid reimbursement for covered services to  
12 eligible students under RCW 74.09.5241 through 74.09.5256, or for the  
13 purpose of compliance with federal law explicitly requiring such  
14 disclosure.

15 (b) If the student is an employee of the school district, a school  
16 district or public school may request disclosure of a student's social  
17 security number for employment purposes. Employment records containing  
18 student social security numbers shall be maintained separately from  
19 student records.

1 (c) Any school district or public school requesting the disclosure  
2 of a student's federal social security number under this subsection (2)  
3 must use a consent form, to be signed by the parent or guardian, that  
4 contains a disclosure statement printed on the form. The disclosure  
5 statement must include the following:

6 (i) Whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary;

7 (ii) The information that will be collected or matched using the  
8 number;

9 (iii) What federal or state law, rule, or regulation requires the  
10 disclosure; and

11 (iv) Who will have access to the number.

12 (d) A parent's or guardian's general consent for another purpose,  
13 including medical consent or any consent used to approve admission to  
14 or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular  
15 school activity, does not constitute consent to disclosure of the  
16 student's social security number.

17 (3)(a) Longitudinal studies that involve the disclosure of student  
18 social security numbers must first be reviewed and approved by the  
19 local school board. The board may permit a school, school district, or  
20 the superintendent of public instruction to request voluntary student  
21 participation in longitudinal studies related to education. Permission  
22 for student participation in a longitudinal study may be granted only  
23 in writing by the student age eighteen or older or by the parent of a  
24 student under age eighteen. Any request for disclosure of a student's  
25 federal social security number for this purpose must include a  
26 disclosure statement with the following information:

27 (i) An explanation that participation in the study and disclosure  
28 of the social security number are voluntary;

29 (ii) An itemization of all information that will be gathered about  
30 the student or the student's family;

31 (iii) Who will have access to the information;

32 (iv) Who will have access to the social security number;

33 (v) How long the study will last;

34 (vi) What will happen to the information after completion of the  
35 longitudinal study; and

36 (vii) The date the school board reviewed and approved participation  
37 in the study.

38 (b) A parent's or guardian's general consent for another purpose,  
39 including medical consent or any consent used to approve admission to

1 or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular  
2 school activity does not constitute consent to disclose the student's  
3 social security number.

4 (4)(a) No official, employee, contractor, or agent of an  
5 educational institution or agency may release a student's social  
6 security number without the written consent of the student age eighteen  
7 or older or the parent or legal guardian of a student under age  
8 eighteen. The request for release must include the following  
9 information:

10 (i) Whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary;

11 (ii) The information that will be collected or matched using the  
12 number;

13 (iii) What federal or state law, rule, or regulation requires the  
14 disclosure; and

15 (iv) Who will have access to the number.

16 (b) A parent's or guardian's general consent for other purposes,  
17 including medical consent or any consent used to approve admission to  
18 or involvement in a special education or remedial program or regular  
19 school activity, does not constitute consent to disclosure of the  
20 student's social security number.

21 (5) This section shall not be construed as prohibiting a school  
22 district from developing an individual student identification number,  
23 unrelated to the student's social security number, to identify and  
24 maintain education records on students enrolled in the district.

25 (6) A student's social security number may only be used for the  
26 purpose it was collected and for which the student or the student's  
27 parent or legal guardian has given prior written consent.

28 (7) It is unlawful for any public school or public school district  
29 to deny a student any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law  
30 because the student or the student's parent or legal guardian refuses  
31 to disclose the student's federal social security number.

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