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TECHNICAL REVIEW OF BILL: No

SENATE: No

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FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

LEGISLATOR STATEMENT: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

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P.L. 2025, CHAPTER 95, *approved July 8, 2025*
Senate, No. 4162

1 **AN ACT** concerning student privacy and amending P.L.2023, c.295.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
4 *of New Jersey:*

5

6 1. Section 1 of P.L.2023, c.295 is amended to read as follows:

7 1. a. Beginning with the 2023-2024 grade 11 class, and for two
8 school years thereafter, a board of education or a board of trustees
9 of a charter school shall require a student, and the student's parent
10 or guardian, if applicable, to complete and submit a financial aid
11 application in a form prescribed by the Higher Education Student
12 Assistance Authority as a prerequisite to the student receiving a
13 high school diploma from a public high school or charter school
14 unless a waiver is submitted to the school district or charter school
15 as set forth in subsection b. of this section.

16 b. (1) A student shall be exempt from the requirement in
17 subsection a. of this section if the student or the student's parent or
18 guardian submits to the school district or charter school a waiver
19 form signed by the parent or guardian, or by the student if the
20 student is at least 18 years of age, requesting the exemption from
21 the requirement.

22 (2) If the student is under 18 years of age and a form signed by
23 the parent or guardian cannot be reasonably obtained, the student's
24 school counselor may authorize the waiver as permitted by
25 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education pursuant
26 to subsection h. of this section.

27 (3) A waiver template or form developed by the Department of
28 Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter
29 school for use pursuant to this subsection shall require the student,
30 parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide
31 only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date,
32 and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

33 c. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student
34 Assistance Authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of
35 Education, shall provide resources for school districts, charter
36 schools, parents, and students that include instructions on how to
37 complete a financial aid application prescribed by the authority.
38 The resources shall include webinars, presentations, guidance
39 documents, and a list of available State and federal resources. The
40 executive director of the authority shall make available such
41 resources as are necessary directly to school counselors or other

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 school employees who shall share the resources with students and
2 with the students' parents or guardians.

3 d. Each school district and charter school shall annually notify
4 students and the parents or guardians of the requirement established
5 pursuant to this section.

6 e. No adverse action shall be taken by a board of education or
7 a board of trustees of a charter school against any student due to a
8 student's receipt of an exemption from the requirement to complete
9 and submit a financial aid application pursuant to subsection b. of
10 this section.

11 f. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring school
12 counselors, or any other school employee, to assist students in
13 completing the financial aid application. Nothing in this act shall
14 be construed as creating a private right of action against the school
15 district, charter school, or the State upon compliance or
16 noncompliance with the provisions of this act.

17 g. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student
18 Assistance Authority shall make the resources listed in subsection c.
19 of this section available to institutions of higher education in order
20 to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance to area high schools.

21 h. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
22 Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
23 seq.), rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of
24 this act.

25 i. The executive director of the authority shall prepare and
26 issue to the Department of Education, and to the Legislature
27 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report
28 that includes the number of students that completed a financial aid
29 form pursuant to subsection a. of this section, as well as the number
30 of waivers submitted to school districts or charter schools pursuant
31 to subsection b. of this section no later than three years following
32 the effective date of this act.

33 j. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
34 contrary, a school district or charter school shall not use or disclose
35 any waiver, or any personal information contained within a waiver,
36 submitted pursuant to subsection b. of this section for any purpose
37 without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent
38 or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level
39 protections of student educational records, including, but not
40 limited to, the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
41 1974," (20 U.S.C. s.1232g); provided, however nothing in this
42 section shall be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any
43 action that is consistent with federal law.

44 (2) The Department of Education shall include language
45 consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection on any optional
46 waiver template developed by the department for use by a school
47 district or charter school in connection with subsection b. of this
48 section. The language shall be located in a prominent location on
49 the waiver developed by the department.

1 (3) A school district or charter school that uses a waiver
2 developed by the district or charter school in connection with
3 subsection b. of this section shall include language consistent with
4 paragraph (1) of this subsection in a prominent location on the
5 waiver.

6 k. Nothing contained in P.L. , c. (pending before the
7 Legislature as this bill) shall be construed to invalidate a waiver
8 submitted pursuant to this section prior to the effective date of
9 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill). A waiver
10 submitted prior to the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before
11 the Legislature as this bill) shall be subject to the provisions of
12 paragraph (1) of subsection j. of this section.

13 (cf: P.L.2023, c.295, s.1)

14
15 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

16
17
18 STATEMENT

19
20 This bill limits the disclosure of certain education records.
21 Current law requires students, or the parent or guardians of
22 students, as applicable, in the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and
23 2027 to complete certain financial aid paperwork unless a waiver is
24 submitted.

25 Under the bill, a waiver template or form developed by the
26 Department of Education, a board of education, or a board of
27 trustees of a charter school for use in collecting student financial aid
28 information pursuant to the provisions of the bill is to require the
29 student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to
30 provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address,
31 date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

32 Under the bill, school districts and charter schools are prohibited
33 from using or disclosing the waiver submitted under P.L.2023,
34 c.295, or any personal information contained within the waiver,
35 without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent
36 or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level
37 protections of student educational records, including the federal
38 Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The bill stipulates it is
39 not to be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action
40 that is consistent with federal law.

41 Under the bill, the Department of Education is to include
42 language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in any
43 optional waiver template developed by the department for use by a
44 school district or charter school in a prominent location on the
45 waiver. The bill requires a school district or charter school that
46 uses a waiver developed by the district or charter school to also
47 include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in a
48 prominent location on the waiver.

1 Finally, the bill provides that nothing in the bill is to be
2 construed to invalidate a waiver submitted prior to the bill's
3 effective date and that a waiver submitted prior to the bill's
4 effective date is subject to the provisions of the bill concerning the
5 prohibition on disclosure.

6
7
8
9

10 Limits use or disclosure of certain education records.

CHAPTER 95

AN ACT concerning student privacy and amending P.L.2023, c.295.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. Section 1 of P.L.2023, c.295 is amended to read as follows:

1. a. Beginning with the 2023-2024 grade 11 class, and for two school years thereafter, a board of education or a board of trustees of a charter school shall require a student, and the student's parent or guardian, if applicable, to complete and submit a financial aid application in a form prescribed by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority as a prerequisite to the student receiving a high school diploma from a public high school or charter school unless a waiver is submitted to the school district or charter school as set forth in subsection b. of this section.

b. (1) A student shall be exempt from the requirement in subsection a. of this section if the student or the student's parent or guardian submits to the school district or charter school a waiver form signed by the parent or guardian, or by the student if the student is at least 18 years of age, requesting the exemption from the requirement.

(2) If the student is under 18 years of age and a form signed by the parent or guardian cannot be reasonably obtained, the student's school counselor may authorize the waiver as permitted by regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection h. of this section.

(3) A waiver template or form developed by the Department of Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter school for use pursuant to this subsection shall require the student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

c. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of Education, shall provide resources for school districts, charter schools, parents, and students that include instructions on how to complete a financial aid application prescribed by the authority. The resources shall include webinars, presentations, guidance documents, and a list of available State and federal resources. The executive director of the authority shall make available such resources as are necessary directly to school counselors or other school employees who shall share the resources with students and with the students' parents or guardians.

d. Each school district and charter school shall annually notify students and the parents or guardians of the requirement established pursuant to this section.

e. No adverse action shall be taken by a board of education or a board of trustees of a charter school against any student due to a student's receipt of an exemption from the requirement to complete and submit a financial aid application pursuant to subsection b. of this section.

f. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring school counselors, or any other school employee, to assist students in completing the financial aid application. Nothing in this act shall be construed as creating a private right of action against the school district, charter school, or the State upon compliance or noncompliance with the provisions of this act.

g. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority shall make the resources listed in subsection c. of this section available to institutions of higher education in order to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance to area high schools.

h. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this act.

i. The executive director of the authority shall prepare and issue to the Department of Education, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report that includes the number of students that completed a financial aid form pursuant to subsection a. of this section, as well as the number of waivers submitted to school districts or charter schools pursuant to subsection b. of this section no later than three years following the effective date of this act.

j. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, a school district or charter school shall not use or disclose any waiver, or any personal information contained within a waiver, submitted pursuant to subsection b. of this section for any purpose without the informed consent of the student or the student’s parent or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level protections of student educational records, including, but not limited to, the “Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974,” (20 U.S.C. s.1232g); provided, however nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action that is consistent with federal law.

(2) The Department of Education shall include language consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection on any optional waiver template developed by the department for use by a school district or charter school in connection with subsection b. of this section. The language shall be located in a prominent location on the waiver developed by the department.

(3) A school district or charter school that uses a waiver developed by the district or charter school in connection with subsection b. of this section shall include language consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection in a prominent location on the waiver.

k. Nothing contained in P.L.2025, c.95 shall be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted pursuant to this section prior to the effective date of P.L.2025, c.95. A waiver submitted prior to the effective date of P.L.2025, c.95 shall be subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection j. of this section.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved July 8, 2025.

SENATE, No. 4162

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Sponsored by:

Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex and Hudson)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman LINDA S. CARTER

District 22 (Somerset and Union)

Assemblywoman CARMEN THERESA MORALES

District 34 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

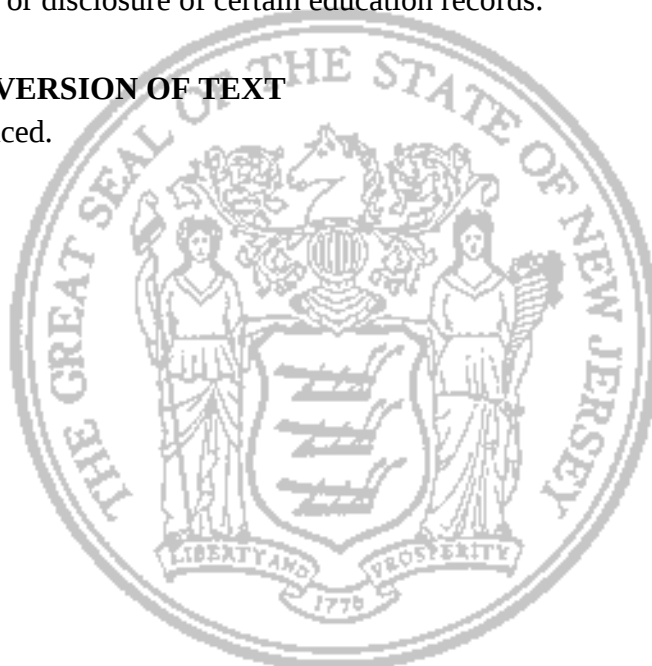
Assemblyman Atkins, Assemblywoman Drulis and Assemblyman Freiman

SYNOPSIS

Limits use or disclosure of certain education records.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/22/2025)

1 AN ACT concerning student privacy and amending P.L.2023, c.295.

2

3 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. Section 1 of P.L.2023, c.295 is amended to read as follows:

7 1. a. Beginning with the 2023-2024 grade 11 class, and for two
8 school years thereafter, a board of education or a board of trustees
9 of a charter school shall require a student, and the student's parent
10 or guardian, if applicable, to complete and submit a financial aid
11 application in a form prescribed by the Higher Education Student
12 Assistance Authority as a prerequisite to the student receiving a
13 high school diploma from a public high school or charter school
14 unless a waiver is submitted to the school district or charter school
15 as set forth in subsection b. of this section.

16 b. (1) A student shall be exempt from the requirement in
17 subsection a. of this section if the student or the student's parent or
18 guardian submits to the school district or charter school a waiver
19 form signed by the parent or guardian, or by the student if the
20 student is at least 18 years of age, requesting the exemption from
21 the requirement.

22 (2) If the student is under 18 years of age and a form signed by
23 the parent or guardian cannot be reasonably obtained, the student's
24 school counselor may authorize the waiver as permitted by
25 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education pursuant
26 to subsection h. of this section.

27 (3) A waiver template or form developed by the Department of
28 Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter
29 school for use pursuant to this subsection shall require the student,
30 parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide
31 only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date,
32 and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

33 c. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student
34 Assistance Authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of
35 Education, shall provide resources for school districts, charter
36 schools, parents, and students that include instructions on how to
37 complete a financial aid application prescribed by the authority.
38 The resources shall include webinars, presentations, guidance
39 documents, and a list of available State and federal resources. The
40 executive director of the authority shall make available such
41 resources as are necessary directly to school counselors or other
42 school employees who shall share the resources with students and
43 with the students' parents or guardians.

44 d. Each school district and charter school shall annually notify
45 students and the parents or guardians of the requirement established
46 pursuant to this section.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 e. No adverse action shall be taken by a board of education or
2 a board of trustees of a charter school against any student due to a
3 student's receipt of an exemption from the requirement to complete
4 and submit a financial aid application pursuant to subsection b. of
5 this section.

6 f. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring school
7 counselors, or any other school employee, to assist students in
8 completing the financial aid application. Nothing in this act shall
9 be construed as creating a private right of action against the school
10 district, charter school, or the State upon compliance or
11 noncompliance with the provisions of this act.

12 g. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student
13 Assistance Authority shall make the resources listed in subsection c.
14 of this section available to institutions of higher education in order
15 to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance to area high schools.

16 h. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
17 Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
18 seq.), rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of
19 this act.

20 i. The executive director of the authority shall prepare and
21 issue to the Department of Education, and to the Legislature
22 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report
23 that includes the number of students that completed a financial aid
24 form pursuant to subsection a. of this section, as well as the number
25 of waivers submitted to school districts or charter schools pursuant
26 to subsection b. of this section no later than three years following
27 the effective date of this act.

28 j. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
29 contrary, a school district or charter school shall not use or disclose
30 any waiver, or any personal information contained within a waiver,
31 submitted pursuant to subsection b. of this section for any purpose
32 without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent
33 or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level
34 protections of student educational records, including, but not
35 limited to, the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
36 1974," (20 U.S.C. s.1232g); provided, however nothing in this
37 section shall be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any
38 action that is consistent with federal law.

39 (2) The Department of Education shall include language
40 consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection on any optional
41 waiver template developed by the department for use by a school
42 district or charter school in connection with subsection b. of this
43 section. The language shall be located in a prominent location on
44 the waiver developed by the department.

45 (3) A school district or charter school that uses a waiver
46 developed by the district or charter school in connection with
47 subsection b. of this section shall include language consistent with
48 paragraph (1) of this subsection in a prominent location on the
49 waiver.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 4162

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 8, 2025

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 4162.

This bill limits the disclosure of certain education records. Current law requires students, or the parents or guardians of students, as applicable, in the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 to complete certain financial aid paperwork unless a waiver is submitted.

Under the bill, a waiver template or form developed by the Department of Education (department), a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter school for use in collecting student financial aid information pursuant to the provisions of the bill is to require the student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

Under the bill, school districts and charter schools are prohibited from using or disclosing the waiver submitted under P.L.2023, c.295, or any personal information contained within the waiver, without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level protections of student educational records, including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The bill stipulates it is not to be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action that is consistent with federal law.

Under the bill, the department is to include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in any optional waiver template developed by the department for use by a school district or charter school in a prominent location on the waiver. The bill requires a school district or charter school that uses a waiver developed by the district or charter school to also include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in a prominent location on the waiver.

Finally, the bill provides that nothing in the bill is to be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date and that a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date is subject to the provisions of the bill concerning the prohibition on disclosure.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 4162 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 5469, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 4162

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 17, 2025

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 4162.

This bill limits the disclosure of certain education records. Current law requires students, or the parent or guardians of students, as applicable, in the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 to complete certain financial aid paperwork unless a waiver is submitted.

Under the bill, a waiver template or form developed by the Department of Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter school for use in collecting student financial aid information pursuant to the provisions of the bill is to require the student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

Under the bill, school districts and charter schools are prohibited from using or disclosing the waiver submitted under P.L.2023, c.295, or any personal information contained within the waiver, without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level protections of student educational records, including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The bill stipulates it is not to be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action that is consistent with federal law.

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Finally, the bill provides that nothing in the bill is to be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date and that a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date is subject to the provisions of the bill concerning the prohibition on disclosure.

ASSEMBLY, No. 5469

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

221st LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 20, 2025

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblywoman LINDA S. CARTER

District 22 (Somerset and Union)

Assemblywoman CARMEN THERESA MORALES

District 34 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Atkins, Assemblywoman Drulis and Assemblyman Freiman

SYNOPSIS

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CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

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12 Assistance Authority as a prerequisite to the student receiving a
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17 subsection a. of this section if the student or the student's parent or
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20 student is at least 18 years of age, requesting the exemption from
21 the requirement.

22 (2) If the student is under 18 years of age and a form signed by
23 the parent or guardian cannot be reasonably obtained, the student's
24 school counselor may authorize the waiver as permitted by
25 regulations promulgated by the State Board of Education pursuant
26 to subsection h. of this section.

27 (3) A waiver template or form developed by the Department of
28 Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter
29 school for use pursuant to this subsection shall require the student,
30 parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide
31 only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date,
32 and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

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34 Assistance Authority, in consultation with the Commissioner of
35 Education, shall provide resources for school districts, charter
36 schools, parents, and students that include instructions on how to
37 complete a financial aid application prescribed by the authority.
38 The resources shall include webinars, presentations, guidance
39 documents, and a list of available State and federal resources. The
40 executive director of the authority shall make available such
41 resources as are necessary directly to school counselors or other
42 school employees who shall share the resources with students and
43 with the students' parents or guardians.

44 d. Each school district and charter school shall annually notify
45 students and the parents or guardians of the requirement established
46 pursuant to this section.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

- 1 e. No adverse action shall be taken by a board of education or
2 a board of trustees of a charter school against any student due to a
3 student's receipt of an exemption from the requirement to complete
4 and submit a financial aid application pursuant to subsection b. of
5 this section.
- 6 f. Nothing in this act shall be construed as requiring school
7 counselors, or any other school employee, to assist students in
8 completing the financial aid application. Nothing in this act shall
9 be construed as creating a private right of action against the school
10 district, charter school, or the State upon compliance or
11 noncompliance with the provisions of this act.
- 12 g. The Executive Director of the Higher Education Student
13 Assistance Authority shall make the resources listed in subsection c.
14 of this section available to institutions of higher education in order
15 to facilitate the delivery of technical assistance to area high schools.
- 16 h. The State Board of Education shall adopt, pursuant to the
17 Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
18 seq.), rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of
19 this act.
- 20 i. The executive director of the authority shall prepare and
21 issue to the Department of Education, and to the Legislature
22 pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), a report
23 that includes the number of students that completed a financial aid
24 form pursuant to subsection a. of this section, as well as the number
25 of waivers submitted to school districts or charter schools pursuant
26 to subsection b. of this section no later than three years following
27 the effective date of this act.
- 28 j. (1) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
29 contrary, a school district or charter school shall not use or disclose
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32 without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent
33 or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level
34 protections of student educational records, including, but not
35 limited to, the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of
36 1974," (20 U.S.C. s.1232g); provided, however nothing in this
37 section shall be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any
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- 39 (2) The Department of Education shall include language
40 consistent with paragraph (1) of this subsection on any optional
41 waiver template developed by the department for use by a school
42 district or charter school in connection with subsection b. of this
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44 the waiver developed by the department.
- 45 (3) A school district or charter school that uses a waiver
46 developed by the district or charter school in connection with
47 subsection b. of this section shall include language consistent with
48 paragraph (1) of this subsection in a prominent location on the
49 waiver.

k. Nothing contained in P.L. _____, c. _____ (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted pursuant to this section prior to the effective date of P.L. _____, c. _____ (pending before the Legislature as this bill). A waiver submitted prior to the effective date of P.L. _____, c. _____ (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection j. of this section.
(cf: P.L.2023, c.295, s.1)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill limits the disclosure of certain education records. Current law requires students, or the parent or guardians of students, as applicable, in the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 to complete certain financial aid paperwork unless a waiver is submitted.

Under the bill, a waiver template or form developed by the Department of Education, a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter school for use in collecting student financial aid information pursuant to the provisions of the bill is to require the student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

Under the bill, school districts and charter schools are prohibited from using or disclosing the waiver submitted under P.L.2023, c.295, or any personal information contained within the waiver, without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level protections of student educational records, including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The bill stipulates it is not to be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action that is consistent with federal law.

Under the bill, the Department of Education is to include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in any optional waiver template developed by the department for use by a school district or charter school in a prominent location on the waiver. The bill requires a school district or charter school that uses a waiver developed by the district or charter school to also include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in a prominent location on the waiver.

Finally, the bill provides that nothing in the bill is to be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date and that a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date is subject to the provisions of the bill concerning the prohibition on disclosure.

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 5469

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 8, 2025

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5469.

This bill limits the disclosure of certain education records. Current law requires students, or the parents or guardians of students, as applicable, in the graduating classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 to complete certain financial aid paperwork unless a waiver is submitted.

Under the bill, a waiver template or form developed by the Department of Education (department), a board of education, or a board of trustees of a charter school for use in collecting student financial aid information pursuant to the provisions of the bill is to require the student, parent or guardian, or school counselor, as applicable, to provide only the student's name, telephone number, email address, date, and signature of the individual submitting the waiver.

Under the bill, school districts and charter schools are prohibited from using or disclosing the waiver submitted under P.L.2023, c.295, or any personal information contained within the waiver, without the informed consent of the student or the student's parent or guardian consistent with applicable federal and State-level protections of student educational records, including the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The bill stipulates it is not to be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action that is consistent with federal law.

Under the bill, the department is to include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in any optional waiver template developed by the department for use by a school district or charter school in a prominent location on the waiver. The bill requires a school district or charter school that uses a waiver developed by the district or charter school to also include language consistent with the prohibition on disclosure in a prominent location on the waiver.

Finally, the bill provides that nothing in the bill is to be construed to invalidate a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date and that a waiver submitted prior to the bill's effective date is subject to the provisions of the bill concerning the prohibition on disclosure.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 5469 is identical to Senate Bill No. 4162, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

Posted on - 07/8/2025

TRENTON – Today, Governor Murphy signed the following bills into law:

S-1400/A-5448 (Singleton, Zwicker/Park, Freiman) - “Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act”; provides alternative process for handling partition actions filed in court concerning real property with multiple owners, at least one of whom had acquired title from relative

S-1439/A-3856 (Singleton, A.M. Bucco/Sampson, McClellan, Miller) - Requires health benefits coverage for additional orthotic and prosthetic appliances under certain circumstances; requires coverage for orthotic and prosthetic appliances obtained through podiatrists

S-2886/A-4015 (Greenstein, Turner/McCoy) - Requires pharmacies to provide certain information regarding insulin manufacturer assistance programs

S-3787/A-5613 (Scutari, Ruiz/Pintor Marin, Morales) - Requires municipal tax collectors who obtain payments in lieu of taxes under “Long Term Tax Exemption Law” to transmit county portion directly to county

S-3850/A-5356 (Smith, Scutari/Karabinchak, Reynolds-Jackson) - Permits county boards of elections to extend distance within which electioneering is prohibited

S-3928/A-5322 (Ruiz, Scutari/Greenwald, Sampson) - Limits general application of certain consumer contracts

S-3961/A-5263 (Ruiz, Scutari/Haider, Morales, Karabinchak) - Requires public and certain nonpublic schools to offer no-fee option to parents for making school lunch and other payments; requires payment processing platforms used by certain schools to provide users with information on user fees

S-4162/A-5469 (Turner, Ruiz/Reynolds-Jackson, Carter, Morales) - Limits use or disclosure of certain education records

A-4113/S-2155 (Carter, Atkins/Cryan, McKeon) - Prohibits sports wagering partnerships at public institutions of higher education

A-5141/S-3813 (Peterpaul, Calabrese, Donlon/Gopal, O’Scanlon) - Establishes historic distillery license; allows consumption of licensee’s products on and off licensed premises under certain circumstances

A-5466/S-4318 (Bailey, Freiman, Reynolds-Jackson/Burzichelli, Greenstein) - Requires BPU to study effects of data centers on electricity costs

A-5736/S-4532 (Bailey, Simmons, Miller/Burzichelli, McKnight) - Updates certain notification requirements in "Energy Bill Watch" program