

2009 MAY -4 PM 3: 19

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 2009

ENROLLED

House Bill No. 3340

(By Delegates M. Poling and Paxton)

Passed April 10, 2009

In Effect from Passage

ENROLLED

H. B. 3340

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OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

(BY DELEGATES M. POLING AND PAXTON)

[Passed April 10, 2009; in effect from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-1D-10, relating to entry into a data state compact among the Higher Education Policy Commission, Council for Community and Technical College Education and State Board of Education; authorizing disclosures of information among the parties; requiring that personal privacy laws be obeyed and security measures and procedures be developed; and setting forth requirements for data sharing arrangements with research organizations.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new section, designated §18B-1D-10, to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1D. HIGHER EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY.

§18B-1D-10. State data sharing compact; legislative intent; findings; definitions.

(a) The intent of the Legislature in enacting this section
is to direct the commission, council and State Board of
Education to enter into a state compact, consistent with the
provisions of section six of this article, on or before July 1,
2009, to develop and maintain a longitudinal education data
system and to share educational information.

7 (b) The Legislature makes the following findings:

8 (1) Sound data collection, reporting and analysis are critical to building an education system capable of ensuring 9 that all West Virginia students are adequately prepared for 10 11 college and the global workforce. Elementary schools, 12 middle schools, secondary schools and higher education 13 institutions can improve instructional and educational 14 decision-making using data that are collected and made 15 available to them.

16 (2) State education policymaking benefits from 17 partnerships between state education agencies and entities 18 with expertise in education research. It is beneficial for West 19 Virginia to establish systems and processes that permit 20 qualified researchers to assist with state evaluation and 21 research functions in a manner that is consistent with privacy 22 protection laws.

23 (3) West Virginia is committed to establishing and maintaining a longitudinal student unit record data system 24 25 that educators and policymakers can use to analyze and 26 assess student progress beginning with early learning 27 programs and continuing through post-secondary education 28 and into employment. The commission, council and State 29 Board of Education have designed, built and deployed some 30 of the fundamental components of a longitudinal data system 31 and have engaged in extensive efforts to link and use 32 available education data effectively. Now, it is necessary to

integrate and manage the various education data components
in a cooperative manner to establish a data-driven,
decision-making environment for this state's education
system.

37 (4) Students will achieve improved learning outcomes
38 because of the longitudinal data system established through
39 the state compact mandated by this section.

40 (6) State use and management of education data shall be
41 in accordance with all legal requirements protecting student
42 privacy and shall protect personal information from
43 intentional or accidental release to unauthorized persons and
44 from intentional or accidental use for unauthorized purposes.

45 (c) Definitions:

(1) "Longitudinal data system" means a student unit
record data system that links student records beginning with
early learning programs and continuing through postsecondary education, entry into the workforce and beyond.
The system may consist of separate student unit record
systems integrated through agreement and data transfer
mechanisms.

(2) "Privacy protection laws" means the federal Family
Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C.
1232g) and any other state or federal laws relating to the
confidentiality and protection of personally identifiable
information.

(3) "Research organization" means a governmental entity,
institution of higher education, public policy organization or
other person or entity conducting educational research that
meets the following conditions:

Enr. H.B. 3340]

62 (i) Qualified to perform educational research and protect63 the privacy of student data;

64 (ii) Seeks to perform research for a non-commercial65 purpose authorized by privacy protection laws; and

66 (iii) Agrees to perform the research pursuant to a written
67 agreement meeting the requirements of privacy protection
68 laws and best research practices.

69 (d) The state data-sharing compact entered into by the
70 commission, council and State Board of Education shall
71 contain the following:

(1) A plan to establish and maintain a longitudinal data
system that links early learning, elementary, middle and
secondary school student unit records with higher education
institution student unit records;

(2) A plan to establish a data warehouse that integrates
data from multiple student unit record systems and supports
all of the uses and functions of the longitudinal data system;

79 (3) A list of areas for collaborative research and a80 preliminary plan for conducting that research;

81 (4) A system for entering into data sharing arrangements
82 with each other and with research organizations consistent
83 with subsection (f) of this section; and

(5) A provision that allows another party to the compact
to review any draft report or study generated using that
party's data at least ten days before the report or study is
released publicly. During that ten day period, each party
shall be given the opportunity to submit comments regarding
the accuracy, conclusions and recommendations of the report
or study.

91 (e) To facilitate implementation of the requirements of92 this section:

93 (1) The commission, council and State Board of
94 Education are authorized to disclose data to the longitudinal
95 data system and to each other consistent with the purposes of
96 this section;

97 (2) With the assistance of the State Board of Education,
98 the commission, council and state institutions of higher
99 education shall collect the State Board of Education's unique
100 identifier for all students who have attended public schools in
101 West Virginia to facilitate better matching of student unit
102 record data.

(3) The commission, council and State Board of
Education shall collect, use, maintain, disclose and share data
in accordance with personal privacy laws and shall develop
security measures and procedures that protect personal
information from intentional or accidental release to
unauthorized persons and from intentional or accidental use
for unauthorized purposes.

(f) A data sharing arrangement entered into with a
research organization pursuant to this section shall meet the
following criteria:

(1) Permitted by and undertaken in accordance withprivacy protection laws;

(2) Receives prior approval from the State Superintendent
of Schools or designee, the Chancellor for Higher Education
or designee, and the Chancellor for Community and
Technical College Education or designee, as appropriate, if
data from that entity are being utilized in the research;

Enr. H.B. 3340]

(3) Prohibits the personal identification of any person by
individuals other than authorized representatives of the
research organization who have legitimate interests in the
information;

- (4) Ensures the destruction or return of the data when no
 longer needed for the authorized purposes under the data
 sharing arrangement;
- 127 (5) Performed pursuant to a written agreement with the128 research organization that does the following:
- 129 (A) Specifies the purpose, scope and duration of the data130 sharing arrangement;
- (B) Requires the recipient of the data to use personally
 identifiable information from education records only to meet
 the purpose or purposes of the data sharing arrangement
 stated in the written agreement;
- 135 (C) Describes specific data access, use and security136 restrictions that the recipient will undertake; and
- (D) Contains such other terms and provisions as the
 commission, council and State Board of Education, as
 appropriate, consider necessary or appropriate.
- (g) As a condition of participating in state-level financial
 aid programs provided for in chapter eighteen-c of this code,
 the commission may require non-public institutions of higher
 education to provide data for the longitudinal data system and
 data warehouse.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing billis correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originating in the House.

In effect from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Delegates

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