
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 677
Author: Bryan (D), et al.
Amended: 9/3/25 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/11/25
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Laird
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/24/25
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Arreguín, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Stern,
Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/10/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil records and health: pupils experiencing homelessness:
directory information and reporting

SOURCE: Los Angeles Unified School District

DIGEST: This bill authorizes directory information of a student identified as a homeless child or youth to be disclosed to facilitate an eye examination by a nonprofit eye examination provider or a free oral health assessment hosted by schools, unless the parent or student accorded parental rights has provided written notice to the school that they do not consent to the physical examination.

Senate Floor Amendments of 9/3/25 (1) clarify that the disclosure of the directory information of a homeless student is authorized by school district policy pursuant to existing law; (2) move the provision relating to reporting via alternative communication channels to parents of homeless students about a defect identified from an eye examination to the area of the Education Code that is specific to eye exams; and, (3) add similar language about reporting via alternative communication channels to parents of homeless students about a defect identified

from an oral health assessment to the area of the Education Code that is specific to oral health assessments.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits, pursuant to the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), federal funds from being provided to any educational agency or institution which has a policy or practice of permitting the release of a student's educational records to any individual, agency, or organization without the written consent of the student's parents. FERPA exempts from the general parental consent requirement certain kinds of disclosures, including disclosures to state and local officials for the purposes of conducting truancy proceedings, a criminal investigation, auditing or evaluating an educational program, or in relation to the application for financial aid. (United States Code, Title 20, Section 1232g and Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Sections 99.31)
- 2) Prohibits a school district from permitting access to student records to a person without parental consent or under judicial order, with some exceptions. (Education Code (EC) § 49076)
- 3) Requires school districts to permit access to records relevant to the legitimate educational interests of specified requesters, including:
 - a) School officials and employees of the districts, members of a school attendance review board and any volunteer aide (as specified), provided that the person has a legitimate educational interest to inspect a record.
 - b) Officials and employees of other public schools or school systems where the student intends to or is directed to enroll.
 - c) Other federal, state and local officials as specified.
 - d) Parents of a student 18 years of age or older who is a dependent.
 - e) A student 16 years of age or older or having completed the 10th grade who requests access.
 - f) A district attorney, judge or probation officer, in relation to truancy proceedings.

- g) A district attorney's office for consideration against a parent for failure to comply with compulsory education laws.
 - h) A probation officer, district attorney, or counsel of record for a minor, in relation to a criminal investigation or in regard to declaring a person a ward of the court or involving a violation of a condition of probation.
 - i) A county placing agency when acting as an authorized representative of a state or local educational agency.
 - j) A student 14 years of age or older who meets specified criteria.
 - k) An individual who completes specified items of the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit and signs the affidavit for the purpose of enrolling a minor in school.
 - l) An agency caseworker or other representative of a state or local child welfare agency, or tribal organization, that has legal responsibility, in accordance with state or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student.
 - m) A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student, a short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student, and a caregiver who has direct responsibility for the care of the student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family. (EC § 49076)
- 4) Authorizes school districts to release information from student records to the following:
- a) Appropriate persons in connection with an emergency if the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or other person.
 - b) Agencies or organizations in connection with the application of a student for, or receipt of, financial aid.
 - c) The county elections official for the identification of students who are eligible to register to vote.

- d) Accrediting associations in order to carry out accrediting functions.
 - e) Organizations conducting studies on behalf of educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, and improving instruction.
 - f) Officials and employees of private schools or school systems where the student is enrolled or intends to enroll.
 - g) A contractor or consultant with a legitimate educational interest who has a formal written agreement or contract with the school district regarding the provision of outsourced institutional services or functions by the contractor or consultant. (EC § 49076)
- 5) Requires school districts to adopt a policy identifying categories of directory information that may be released, and authorizes directory information to be released according to the local policy. School districts are required to provide notice at least annually of the categories of information that the school plans to release and of the recipients. The release of directory information is prohibited if the parent has notified the school district that the information is not to be released. Further, the release of directory information regarding a student identified as homeless is prohibited unless a parent or student with parental rights has provided written consent that directory information may be released. (EC § 49073)
- 6) Defines “directory information” as one or more of the following: student’s name, address, telephone number, date of birth, email address, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletics teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous public or private school attended by the student. (EC § 49061)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes directory information of a student identified as a homeless child or youth to be disclosed to facilitate an eye examination by a nonprofit eye examination provider or a free oral health assessment hosted by schools, unless the parent or student accorded parental rights has provided written notice to the

school that they do not consent to the physical examination.

- 2) Requires that directory information disclosed pursuant to # 1 only be disclosed for the purpose of facilitating an eye examination by a nonprofit eye examination provider, or a free oral health assessment hosted by schools.
- 3) Provides that reports made to a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver of a student experiencing homelessness about a student defect identified from an eye examination facilitated by a nonprofit eye examination provider, or a free oral health assessment hosted by schools, should be made by alternative communication channels rather than mail, when possible.

Comments

- 1) *Need for this bill.* According to the author, “AB 677 will increase access to on-campus vision and dental screenings for unhoused students by exempting these youth—solely for the purpose of these screenings—from requirements that prohibit the sharing of their directory information. This information is necessary for these screenings to be conducted by providers; however, due to current restrictions in statute, it cannot be released without written parental consent, which is often difficult to obtain in the case of unhoused students. This leads to the underutilization of on-campus vision and dental screenings amongst these vulnerable youth. AB 677 removes a barrier that will allow unhoused students to access the essential vision and dental screenings they need and deserve.”
- 2) *Opt-in vs. opt-out.* Existing law prohibits the release of directory information if a parent has notified the school district that the information is not to be released (opt-out), and also prohibits the release of directory information regarding a student identified as homeless unless a parent or student with parental rights has provided written consent that directory information may be released (opt-in).

This bill authorizes the release of directory information regarding a student identified as homeless specifically for the purposes of facilitating an eye exam or oral health assessment unless the parent has provided written notice to the school that they do not consent to the physical exam (opt-out). This bill aligns opt-out policies for both housed and unhoused students regarding the release of directory information for the purposes of conducting vision and dental screenings.

- 3) *Vision screening and oral health assessment currently required for school enrollment.* Existing law requires a parent or guardian of a first-grade student, within the first 90 days of the school year, to provide a certificate, signed by a medical professional, documenting that the child has received a health check-up within the last 18 months (Health and Safety Code § 124085). The health examination required for school entry includes a vision screening, completed by the child's regular healthcare provider. The parent or guardian may submit a signed waiver stating they are unwilling or unable to obtain a health screening for the child. School districts are required to exclude children from school for up to five days, if the parent has not provided the health documentation or waiver. In the case of students experiencing homelessness, a school is required to immediately enroll the student even if they do not have required documents such as required health records, pursuant to both federal and state law.

Existing law requires a student to provide proof of having received an oral health assessment by a dental health professional within the 12 months prior to initial enrollment (EC § 49452.8). Parents or guardians may be excused from this requirement if the dental assessment could not be completed due to an undue financial burden, lack of access to a dentist, or if the parent does not consent to such an assessment. Existing law requires that homeless students be immediately enrolled regardless of whether they have required health records.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 9/3/25)

Los Angeles Unified School District (Source)
 Alameda County Office of Education
 American Academy of Pediatrics, California
 Association of California School Administrators
 California Coalition for Youth
 California County Superintendents
 California Dental Association
 California School Boards Association
 Health Net and its Affiliated Companies
 Office of the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools
 Santa Clara County School Boards Association
 The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health

OPPOSITION: (Verified 9/3/25)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/10/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Chen, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Lynn Lorber / ED. / (916) 651-4105
9/6/25 10:30:10

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