



www.studentprivacymatters.org
info@studentprivacymatters.org
@parents4privacy

124 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10011
303.204.1272

By email to EDtestimony@cga.ct.gov

March 6, 2017

In Opposition to Bill 7207- *AN ACT MAKING REVISIONS TO THE STUDENT DATA PRIVACY ACT OF 2016*

On behalf of the Parent Coalition for Student Privacy, a national organization of parents and advocates concerned with protecting student privacy, we urge the Connecticut state legislature not to roll back or delay the critical protections that Public Act 89 enacted into law in June 2016.

There is no excuse to delay for another two years all the core privacy and security provisions in the law, which among other things would allow new contracts signed before then to allow vendors to use personal student data for targeted advertising, to fail to notify districts if there are breaches, to retain student data after the contracted services are finished, to claim as their own property student-generated content, and to ignore strict security practices.

In addition, we urge the Legislature to immediately convene the Task Force of stakeholders which was promised and that was supposed to submit a report by January 1, 2017, with proposals on how the state and districts could enact enforcement and penalties for violations of law, require training in data security and handling, a means by which parents could request the deletion of student information held by third parties and to otherwise help develop model privacy and security practices.

As we hope you agree, there is no resource so precious as the privacy of the Connecticut's children, and no excuse to delay any longer these critical protections which place their interests over the commercial interests of potential vendors.

Yours sincerely,

Leonie Haimson and Rachael Stickland, co-Chairs

Cc: Jenn Jacobsen, founder, Connecticut Alliance for Privacy in Education

Ray Rossomando, Research and Policy Specialist, Connecticut Education Association