

Amend CSHB 2730 (house committee report) by adding the following appropriately numbered article to the bill and renumbering subsequent articles of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE _____. DISCLOSURE OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION
REGARDING PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

SECTION _____.01. Section 411.084, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (a-1) and (c) to read as follows:

(a) Criminal history record information obtained from the department under this subchapter, including any identification information that could reveal the identity of a person about whom criminal history record information is requested and information that directly or indirectly indicates or implies involvement of a person in the criminal justice system:

(1) is for the exclusive use of the authorized recipient of the information; and

(2) may be disclosed or used by the recipient only if, and only to the extent that, disclosure or use is authorized or directed by:

(A) this subchapter;

(B) another statute;

(C) a rule adopted under a statute; or

(D) an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(a-1) The term "criminal history record" information under Subsection (a) does not refer to any specific document produced to comply with this subchapter but to the information contained, wholly or partly, in a document's original form or any subsequent form or use.

(c) An agency or individual may not confirm the existence or nonexistence of criminal history record information to any person that is not eligible to receive the information.

SECTION _____.02. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 411.090, Government Code, are amended to read as follows:

(b) Criminal history record information obtained by the board in the original form or any subsequent form [~~under Subsection (a)~~]:

(1) may be used only for a ~~[any]~~ purpose related to the issuance, denial, suspension, or cancellation of a certificate issued by the board;

(2) may not be released to any person except:

(A) the person who is the subject of the information;

(B) the Texas Education Agency;

(C) a local or regional educational entity as provided by Section 411.097; or

(D) by ~~[on]~~ court order ~~[or with the consent of the applicant for a certificate]; [and]~~

(3) is not subject to disclosure as provided by Chapter 552; and

(4) shall be destroyed by the board after the information is used for the authorized purposes.

(c) The department shall notify the State Board for Educator Certification of the arrest of any educator, as defined by Section 5.001, Education Code, who has fingerprints on file with the department. Any record of the notification and any information contained in the notification is not subject to disclosure as provided by Chapter 552.

SECTION _____.03. Section 411.0901, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 411.0901. ACCESS TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION: TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY. (a) The Texas Education Agency is entitled to obtain criminal history record information maintained by the department about a person who:

(1) is employed or is an applicant for employment by a school district or open-enrollment charter school;

(2) is employed or is an applicant for employment by a shared services arrangement, if the employee's or applicant's duties are or will be performed on school property or at another location where students are regularly present; or

(3) is employed or is an applicant for employment by an entity that contracts with a school district, open-enrollment charter school, or shared services arrangement if:

(A) the employee or applicant has or will have

continuing duties relating to the contracted services; and

(B) the employee or applicant has or will have direct contact with students.

(b) Criminal history record information obtained by the agency in the original form or any subsequent form:

(1) may be used only for a purpose authorized by the Education Code;

(2) may not be released to any person except:

(A) the person who is the subject of the information;

(B) the State Board for Educator Certification;

(C) a local or regional educational entity as provided by Section 411.097; or

(D) by court order;

(3) is not subject to disclosure as provided by Chapter 552; and

(4) shall be destroyed by the agency after the information is used for the authorized purposes.

SECTION _____.04. Section 411.097, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (d) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(d) Criminal history record information obtained by a school district, charter school, private school, service center, commercial transportation company, or shared services arrangement in the original form or any subsequent form:

(1) [~~under Subsection (a), (b), or (c)~~] may not be released [~~or disclosed~~] to any person except:

(A) [~~other than~~] the individual who is the subject of the information;

(B) [~~7~~] the Texas Education Agency;

(C) [~~7~~] the State Board for Educator Certification;

(D) [~~7 or~~] the chief personnel officer of the transportation company, if the information is obtained under Subsection (a)(2); or

(E) by court order;

(2) is not subject to disclosure as provided by

Chapter 552; and

(3) shall be destroyed by the school district, charter school, private school, service center, commercial transportation company, or shared services arrangement on the earlier of:

(A) the first anniversary of the date the information was originally obtained; or

(B) the date the information is used for the authorized purpose.

(f) An employee of a school district, charter school, private school, regional education service center, commercial transportation company, or education shared services arrangement or an entity that contracts to provide services to a school district, charter school, or shared services arrangement may request from the employer a copy of any criminal history record information relating to that employee that the employer has obtained as provided by Subchapter C, Chapter 22, Education Code. The employer may charge a fee to an employee requesting a copy of the information in an amount not to exceed the actual cost of copying the requested criminal history record information.

SECTION _____.05. Subchapter C, Chapter 22, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 22.08391 to read as follows:

Sec. 22.08391. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.

(a) Information collected about a person to comply with this subchapter, including the person's name, address, phone number, social security number, driver's license number, other identification number, and fingerprint records:

(1) may not be released except:

(A) to comply with this subchapter;

(B) by court order; or

(C) with the consent of the person who is the subject of the information;

(2) is not subject to disclosure as provided by Chapter 552, Government Code; and

(3) shall be destroyed by the requestor or any subsequent holder of the information not later than the first anniversary of the date the information is received.

(b) Any criminal history record information received by the

State Board for Educator Certification as provided by this subchapter is subject to Section 411.090(b), Government Code.

(c) Any criminal history record information received by the agency as provided by this subchapter is subject to Section 411.0901(b), Government Code.

(d) Any criminal history record information received by a school district, charter school, private school, regional education service center, commercial transportation company, or education shared services arrangement or an entity that contracts to provide services to a school district, charter school, or shared services arrangement as provided by this subchapter is subject to Section 411.097(d), Government Code.

SECTION _____.06. The change in law made by this article applies to information collected, assembled, or maintained before, on, or after the effective date of this article.