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**School Safety Modifications**  
2026 GENERAL SESSION  
STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Derrin R. Owens**  
House Sponsor: Ryan D. Wilcox

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill creates a system for the State Board of Education (state board) to collect and share information about student threats between local education agencies (LEAs).

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ establishes a statewide student threat flag;
- ▶ defines terms related to student threats and threat assessments;
- ▶ requires LEAs to report certain student threat information to the state board;
- ▶ authorizes the state board to share threat information with other LEAs;
- ▶ provides protections for student privacy;
- ▶ establishes procedures for data collection, retention, and deletion;
- ▶ creates immunity provisions for good faith reporting; and
- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a special effective date.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

- 53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 9
- 53E-3-518 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 21, 24
- 53E-9-301 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 328
- 53E-9-305 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 161

28 **53E-9-308 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 328,  
29 381

30 **53G-8-701.5 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 388

31 **53G-8-802 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 388

32 ENACTS:

33 **53G-8-806 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

34

35 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

36 Section 1. Section **53E-1-201** is amended to read:

37 **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27). Reports to and**  
38 **action required of the Education Interim Committee.**

39 (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring  
40 reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:

- 41 (a) the report described in Section 9-22-109 by the STEM Action Center Board,  
42 including the information described in Section 9-22-113 on the status of the computer  
43 science initiative and Section 9-22-114 on the Computing Partnerships Grants  
44 Program;
- 45 (b) the prioritized list of data research described in Section 53H-15-303 and the report  
46 on research and activities described in Section 53H-15-305 by the Utah Data  
47 Research Center;
- 48 (c) the report described in Section 53H-1-203 by the Utah Board of Higher Education on  
49 career and technical education issues and addressing workforce needs;
- 50 (d) the annual report of the Utah Board of Higher Education described in Section  
51 53H-1-203;
- 52 (e) the reports described in Section 53H-7-603 by the Utah Board of Higher Education  
53 regarding activities related to campus safety;
- 54 (f) the State Superintendent's Annual Report by the state board described in Section  
55 53E-1-203;
- 56 (g) the annual report described in Section 53E-2-202 by the state board on the strategic  
57 plan to improve student outcomes;
- 58 (h) the report described in Section 53E-3-501 by the state board on students in an LEA  
59 who receive academic credit through the packet method;
- 60 (i) the report described in Section 53E-8-204 by the state board on the Utah Schools for  
61 the Deaf and the Blind;

- 62 (j) the report described in Section 53E-10-703 by the Utah Leading through Effective,  
63 Actionable, and Dynamic Education director on research and other activities;
- 64 (k) the report described in Section 53F-2-522 regarding mental health screening  
65 programs;
- 66 (l) the report described in Section 53F-4-203 by the state board and the independent  
67 evaluator on an evaluation of early interactive reading software;
- 68 (m) the report described in Section 53F-6-412 by the program manager of the Utah Fits  
69 All Scholarship Program;
- 70 (n) the report described in Section 63N-20-107 by the Governor's Office of Economic  
71 Opportunity on UPSTART;
- 72 (o) the report described in Section 53F-5-215 by the state board related to a grant for an  
73 elementary teacher preparation assessment;
- 74 (p) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-5-219 by the state board on the  
75 Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program;
- 76 (q) the report described in Section 53F-5-405 by the state board regarding an evaluation  
77 of a partnership that receives a grant to improve educational outcomes for students  
78 who are low-income;
- 79 (r) the report described in Section 53H-1-604 regarding the Higher Education and  
80 Corrections Council;
- 81 (s) the report described in Section 53G-7-221 by the state board regarding innovation  
82 plans;~~and~~
- 83 (t) the reports described in Section 53F-6-412 regarding the Utah Fits All Scholarship  
84 Program~~;~~ and
- 85 (u) the report described in Subsection 53G-8-806(7)(e) regarding operation and  
86 effectiveness of the student threat information.
- 87 (2) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following occasional  
88 reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:
- 89 (a) in 2027, 2030, 2033, and 2035, the reports described in Sections 53H-1-502,  
90 53H-1-503, and 53H-1-504;
- 91 (b) in 2025, the report described in Section 53H-6-203 by a degree-granting institution  
92 regarding policies on abusive coaching practices;
- 93 (c) if required, the report described in Section 53E-4-309 by the state board explaining  
94 the reasons for changing the grade level specification for the administration of  
95 specific assessments;

- 96 (d) if required, the report described in Section 53E-5-210 by the state board of an  
97 adjustment to the minimum level that demonstrates proficiency for each statewide  
98 assessment;
- 99 (e) the report described in Section 53E-10-702 by Utah Leading through Effective,  
100 Actionable, and Dynamic Education;
- 101 (f) if required, the report described in Section 53F-2-513 by the state board evaluating  
102 the effects of salary bonuses on the recruitment and retention of effective teachers in  
103 high-poverty schools;
- 104 (g) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-10-303 by the state board  
105 regarding the Rural School Sports Facilities Grant Program;
- 106 (h) upon request, a report described in Section 53G-7-222 by an LEA regarding  
107 expenditure of a percentage of state restricted funds to support an innovative  
108 education program;
- 109 (i) the reports described in Section 53G-11-304 by the state board regarding proposed  
110 rules and results related to educator exit surveys; and
- 111 (j) the report described in Section 26B-5-113 by the Office of Substance Use and Mental  
112 Health, the state board, and the Department of Health and Human Services regarding  
113 recommendations related to Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health  
114 services.
- 115 (3) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, every five years the  
116 Education Interim Committee shall review the programs described in the following  
117 sections of code:
- 118 (a) beginning July 1, 2027, Title 53E, Chapter 10, Part 3, Concurrent Enrollment;
- 119 (b) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-408, Enhancement for Accelerated Students  
120 Program;
- 121 (c) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-409, Concurrent enrollment funding;
- 122 (d) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-415, Student health and counseling support --  
123 Qualifying personnel -- Distribution formula -- Rulemaking;
- 124 (e) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-416, Appropriation and distribution for the  
125 Teacher and Student Success Program;
- 126 (f) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-510, Digital Teaching and Learning Grant  
127 Program;
- 128 (g) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-9-306, Teacher and Student Success Account;
- 129 (h) beginning July 1, 2028, Title 53G, Chapter 7, Part 13, Teacher and Student Success

- 130 Program; and
- 131 (i) beginning July 1, 2029, Section 53F-2-502, Dual language immersion.
- 132 Section 2. Section **53E-3-518** is amended to read:
- 133 **53E-3-518 (Effective 07/01/26). Utah school information management system --**
- 134 **Local education agency requirements.**
- 135 (1) As used in this section:
- 136 (a) "LEA data system" or "LEA's data system" means a data system that:
- 137 (i) is developed, selected, or relied upon by an LEA; and
- 138 (ii) the LEA uses to collect data or submit data to the state board related to:
- 139 (A) student information;
- 140 (B) educator information;
- 141 (C) financial information; or
- 142 (D) other information requested by the state board.
- 143 (b) "LEA financial information system" or "LEA's financial information system" means
- 144 an LEA data system used for financial information.
- 145 (c) "Parent" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53G-6-201.
- 146 (d) "Utah school information management system" or "information management
- 147 system" means the state board's data collection and reporting system described in this
- 148 section.
- 149 (e) "User" means an individual who has authorized access to the information
- 150 management system.
- 151 (2) [~~On or before July 1, 2024, the~~] The state board shall have in place an information
- 152 management system that meets the requirements described in this section.
- 153 (3) The state board shall ensure that the information management system:
- 154 (a) interfaces with:
- 155 (i) an LEA's data systems that meet the requirements described in Subsection (7);
- 156 (ii) where appropriate, the systems described in Subsections 53-10-302(7) and (8);
- 157 and
- 158 (iii) the public safety portal described in Section 63A-16-1002;[~~and~~]
- 159 (b) serves as the mechanism for the state board to collect and report on all data that
- 160 LEAs submit to the state board related to:
- 161 (i) student information;
- 162 (ii) educator information;
- 163 (iii) financial information;

- 164 (iv) student threat information as described in Section 53G-8-806; and  
165 [~~(iv)~~] (v) other information requested by the state board;
- 166 (c) includes a web-based user interface through which a user may:  
167 (i) enter data;  
168 (ii) view data; and  
169 (iii) generate customizable reports;
- 170 (d) includes a data warehouse and other hardware or software necessary to store or  
171 process data submitted by an LEA;
- 172 (e) provides for data privacy, including by complying with Chapter 9, Student Privacy  
173 and Data Protection;
- 174 (f) restricts user access based on each user's role; and  
175 (g) meets requirements related to a student achievement backpack described in Section  
176 53E-3-511.
- 177 (4) On or before January 31, 2026, the state board shall:  
178 (a) ensure the information management system described in this section allows for the  
179 transfer of a student's transcript, current IEP, or Section 504 accommodation plan,  
180 including the tracking of necessary accommodations and services between:  
181 (i) different LEA student information systems; and  
182 (ii) an authorized online course provider and a primary LEA; and  
183 (b) ensure the transfer capability described in Subsection (4)(a) is available for the same  
184 use within the operating system the state board uses for the Statewide Online  
185 Education Program described in Title 53F, Chapter 4, Part 5, Statewide Online  
186 Education Program.
- 187 (5) The state board shall establish the restrictions on user access described in Subsection  
188 (3)(f).
- 189 (6)(a) The state board shall make rules that establish the required capabilities for an LEA  
190 financial information system.  
191 (b) In establishing the required capabilities for an LEA financial information system, the  
192 state board shall consider metrics and capabilities requested by the state treasurer or  
193 state auditor.
- 194 (7)(a) [~~On or before July 1, 2024, an~~] An LEA shall ensure that:  
195 (i) all of the LEA's data systems:  
196 (A) meet the data standards established by the state board in accordance with  
197 Section 53E-3-501;

- 198 (B) are fully compatible with the state board's information management system;  
199 and  
200 (C) meet specification standards determined by the state board; and  
201 (ii) the LEA's financial information system meets the requirements described in  
202 Subsection (6).
- 203 (b) An LEA shall ensure that an LEA data system purchased or developed on or after  
204 May 14, 2019, will be compatible with the information management system when the  
205 information management system is fully operational.
- 206 (8)(a) Subject to appropriations and Subsection (8)(b), the state board may use an  
207 appropriation under this section to help an LEA meet the requirements in the rules  
208 described in Subsection (6) by:
- 209 (i) providing to the LEA funding for implementation and sustainment of the LEA  
210 financial information system, either through:  
211 (A) awarding a grant to the LEA; or  
212 (B) providing a reimbursement to the LEA; or  
213 (ii) in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 6a, Utah Procurement Code, procuring a  
214 financial information system on behalf of an LEA for the LEA to use as the LEA's  
215 financial information system.
- 216 (b) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
217 state board shall make rules describing:  
218 (i) how an LEA may apply to the state board for the assistance described in  
219 Subsection (8)(a); and  
220 (ii) criteria for the state board to provide the assistance to an LEA.
- 221 (9)(a) ~~[Beginning July 1, 2024, the ]~~ The state board may take action against an LEA that  
222 is out of compliance with a requirement described in Subsection (7) until the LEA  
223 complies with the requirement.
- 224 (b) An action described in Subsection (9)(a) may include the state board withholding  
225 funds from the LEA.
- 226 (10)(a) For purposes of this Subsection (10), "education record" means the same as that  
227 term is defined in 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g.
- 228 (b) The state board shall, by rule made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah  
229 Administrative Rulemaking Act, establish a procedure under which:  
230 (i) a parent may submit information as part of the education records for the parent's  
231 student;

- 232 (ii) the information submitted by the parent is maintained as part of the education  
 233 records for the parent's student;
- 234 (iii) information submitted by the parent and maintained as part of the education  
 235 records for the parent's student may be removed at the request of the parent; and  
 236 (iv) a parent has access only to the education records of the parent's student in  
 237 accordance with Subsection (10)(d).
- 238 (c) The rules made under this Subsection (10) shall allow a parent to submit or remove  
 239 information submitted by the parent under this Subsection (10) at least annually,  
 240 including at the time of:
- 241 (i) registering a student in a school; or  
 242 (ii) changing the school in which a student attends.
- 243 (d) Subject to the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec.  
 244 1232g, and related regulations, the state board shall provide a parent access to an  
 245 education record concerning the parent's student.
- 246 (e) The state board shall create in the information management system a record tracking  
 247 interoperability of education records described in this Subsection (10) when a student  
 248 is transitioning between schools or between LEAs.

249 Section 3. Section **53E-9-301** is amended to read:

250 **53E-9-301 (Effective 07/01/26). Definitions.**

251 As used in this part:

- 252 (1) "Adult student" means a student who:
- 253 (a) is at least 18 years old;
- 254 (b) is an emancipated student; or
- 255 (c) qualifies under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Improvements  
 256 Act of 2001, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11431 et seq.
- 257 (2) "Aggregate data" means data that:
- 258 (a) are totaled and reported at the group, cohort, school, school district, region, or state  
 259 level with at least 10 individuals in the level;
- 260 (b) do not reveal personally identifiable student data; and
- 261 (c) are collected in accordance with state board rule.
- 262 (3)(a) "Biometric identifier" means a:
- 263 (i) retina or iris scan;
- 264 (ii) fingerprint;
- 265 (iii) human biological sample used for valid scientific testing or screening; or

- 266 (iv) scan of hand or face geometry.
- 267 (b) "Biometric identifier" does not include:
- 268 (i) a writing sample;
- 269 (ii) a written signature;
- 270 (iii) a voiceprint;
- 271 (iv) a photograph;
- 272 (v) demographic data; or
- 273 (vi) a physical description, such as height, weight, hair color, or eye color.
- 274 (4) "Biometric information" means information, regardless of how the information is
- 275 collected, converted, stored, or shared:
- 276 (a) based on an individual's biometric identifier; and
- 277 (b) used to identify the individual.
- 278 (5) "Data breach" means an unauthorized release of or unauthorized access to personally
- 279 identifiable student data that is maintained by an education entity.
- 280 (6) "Data governance plan" means an education entity's comprehensive plan for managing
- 281 education data that:
- 282 (a) incorporates reasonable data industry best practices to maintain and protect student
- 283 data and other education-related data;
- 284 (b) describes the role, responsibility, and authority of an education entity data
- 285 governance staff member;
- 286 (c) provides for necessary technical assistance, training, support, and auditing;
- 287 (d) describes the process for sharing student data between an education entity and
- 288 another person;
- 289 (e) describes the education entity's data expungement process, including how to respond
- 290 to requests for expungement;
- 291 (f) describes the data breach response process; and
- 292 (g) is published annually and available on the education entity's website.
- 293 (7) "Education entity" means:
- 294 (a) the state board;
- 295 (b) a local school board;
- 296 (c) a charter school governing board;
- 297 (d) a school district;
- 298 (e) a charter school; or
- 299 (f) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

- 300 (8) "Expunge" means to seal or permanently delete data, as described in state board rule  
301 made in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act,  
302 under Section 53E-9-306.
- 303 (9) "General audience application" means an Internet website, online service, online  
304 application, mobile application, or software program that:
- 305 (a) is not specifically intended for use by an audience member that attends kindergarten  
306 or a grade from 1 to 12, although an audience member may attend kindergarten or a  
307 grade from 1 to 12; and
- 308 (b) is not subject to a contract between an education entity and a third-party contractor.
- 309 (10) "Local education agency" or "LEA" means:
- 310 (a) a school district;
- 311 (b) a charter school; or
- 312 (c) the Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.
- 313 (11) "Metadata dictionary" means a record that:
- 314 (a) defines and discloses all personally identifiable student data collected and shared by  
315 the education entity;
- 316 (b) comprehensively lists all recipients with whom the education entity has shared  
317 personally identifiable student data, including:
- 318 (i) the purpose for sharing the data with the recipient;
- 319 (ii) the justification for sharing the data, including whether sharing the data was  
320 required by federal law, state law, or a local directive; and
- 321 (iii) how sharing the data is permitted under federal or state law; and
- 322 (c) without disclosing personally identifiable student data, is displayed on the education  
323 entity's website.
- 324 (12) "Necessary student data" means data required by state statute or federal law to conduct  
325 the regular activities of an education entity, including:
- 326 (a) name;
- 327 (b) date of birth;
- 328 (c) sex;
- 329 (d) parent contact information;
- 330 (e) custodial parent information;
- 331 (f) contact information;
- 332 (g) a student identification number;
- 333 (h) local, state, and national assessment results or an exception from taking a local, state,

- 334 or national assessment;
- 335 (i) courses taken and completed, credits earned, and other transcript information;
- 336 (j) course grades and grade point average;
- 337 (k) grade level and expected graduation date or graduation cohort;
- 338 (l) degree, diploma, credential attainment, and other school exit information;
- 339 (m) attendance and mobility;
- 340 (n) drop-out data;
- 341 (o) immunization record or an exception from an immunization record;
- 342 (p) race;
- 343 (q) ethnicity;
- 344 (r) tribal affiliation;
- 345 (s) remediation efforts;
- 346 (t) an exception from a vision screening required under Section 53G-9-404 or
- 347 information collected from a vision screening described in Section 53G-9-404;
- 348 (u) information related to the Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disabilities,
- 349 described in Section 26B-7-115;
- 350 (v) student injury information;
- 351 (w) a disciplinary record created and maintained as described in Section 53E-9-306;
- 352 (x) juvenile delinquency records;
- 353 (y) English language learner status; and
- 354 (z) child find and special education evaluation data related to initiation of an IEP.
- 355 (13)(a) "Optional student data" means student data that is not:
- 356 (i) necessary student data; or
- 357 (ii) student data that an education entity may not collect under Section 53E-9-305.
- 358 (b) "Optional student data" includes:
- 359 (i) information that is:
- 360 (A) related to an IEP or needed to provide special needs services; and
- 361 (B) not necessary student data;
- 362 (ii) biometric information; and
- 363 (iii) information that is not necessary student data and that is required for a student to
- 364 participate in a federal or other program.
- 365 (14) "Parent" means:
- 366 (a) a student's parent;
- 367 (b) a student's legal guardian; or

- 368 (c) an individual who has written authorization from a student's parent or legal guardian  
369 to act as a parent or legal guardian on behalf of the student.
- 370 (15)(a) "Personally identifiable student data" means student data that identifies or is used  
371 by the holder to identify a student.
- 372 (b) "Personally identifiable student data" includes:
- 373 (i) a student's first and last name;
- 374 (ii) the first and last name of a student's family member;
- 375 (iii) a student's or a student's family's home or physical address;
- 376 (iv) a student's email address or other online contact information;
- 377 (v) a student's telephone number;
- 378 (vi) a student's social security number;
- 379 (vii) a student's biometric identifier;
- 380 (viii) a student's health or disability data;
- 381 (ix) a student's education entity student identification number;
- 382 (x) a student's social media user name and password or alias;
- 383 (xi) if associated with personally identifiable student data, the student's persistent  
384 identifier, including:
- 385 (A) a customer number held in a cookie; or
- 386 (B) a processor serial number;
- 387 (xii) a combination of a student's last name or photograph with other information that  
388 together permits a person to contact the student online;
- 389 (xiii) information about a student or a student's family that a person collects online  
390 and combines with other personally identifiable student data to identify the  
391 student; and
- 392 (xiv) information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific  
393 student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does  
394 not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student  
395 with reasonable certainty.
- 396 (16) "School official" means an employee or agent of an education entity, if the education  
397 entity has authorized the employee or agent to request or receive student data on behalf  
398 of the education entity.
- 399 (17)(a) "Student data" means information about a student at the individual student level.
- 400 (b) "Student data" does not include aggregate or de-identified data.
- 401 (18) "Student data manager" means:

- 402 (a) the state student data officer; or
- 403 (b) an individual designated as a student data manager by an education entity under
- 404 Section 53E-9-303, who fulfills the duties described in Section 53E-9-308.
- 405 (19)(a) "Targeted advertising" means presenting advertisements to a student where the
- 406 advertisement is selected based on information obtained or inferred over time from
- 407 that student's online behavior, usage of applications, or student data.
- 408 (b) "Targeted advertising" does not include advertising to a student:
- 409 (i) at an online location based upon that student's current visit to that location; or
- 410 (ii) in response to that student's request for information or feedback, without retention
- 411 of that student's online activities or requests over time for the purpose of targeting
- 412 subsequent ads.
- 413 (20) "Third-party contractor" means a person who:
- 414 (a) is not an education entity; and
- 415 (b) ~~[pursuant to]~~ in accordance with a contract with an education entity, collects or
- 416 receives student data in order to provide a product or service, as described in the
- 417 contract, if the product or service is not related to school photography, yearbooks,
- 418 graduation announcements, or a similar product or service.
- 419 (21) "Threat assessment information" means data related to a credible threat made by a
- 420 student that has been evaluated through a threat assessment process and determined to
- 421 pose a potential risk to school safety, including threats of violence against students,
- 422 school personnel, or school property.
- 423 ~~[(21)]~~ (22) "Written consent" means written authorization to collect or share a student's
- 424 student data, from:
- 425 (a) the student's parent, if the student is not an adult student; or
- 426 (b) the student, if the student is an adult student.
- 427 Section 4. Section **53E-9-305** is amended to read:
- 428 **53E-9-305 (Effective 07/01/26). Collecting student data -- Prohibition -- Student**
- 429 **data collection notice -- Written consent.**
- 430 (1) An education entity may not collect a student's:
- 431 (a) social security number; or
- 432 (b) except as required in Section 80-6-103, criminal record.
- 433 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), an education entity that collects student data shall,
- 434 in accordance with this section, prepare and distribute to parents and students a student
- 435 data collection notice statement that:

- 436 (a) is a prominent, stand-alone document;
- 437 (b) is annually updated and published on the education entity's website;
- 438 (c) states the student data that the education entity collects;
- 439 (d) states that the education entity will not collect the student data described in
- 440 Subsection (1);
- 441 (e) states the student data described in Section 53E-9-308 that the education entity may
- 442 not share without written consent;
- 443 (f) includes the following statement:
- 444 "The collection, use, and sharing of student data has both benefits and risks. Parents and
- 445 students should learn about these benefits and risks and make choices regarding student data
- 446 accordingly.";
- 447 (g) describes in general terms how the education entity stores and protects student data;
- 448 and
- 449 (h) states a student's rights under this part.
- 450 (3) The state board may publicly post the state board's collection notice described in
- 451 Subsection (2).
- 452 (4) An education entity may collect the necessary student data of a student if the education
- 453 entity provides a student data collection notice to:
- 454 (a) the student, if the student is an adult student; or
- 455 (b) the student's parent, if the student is not an adult student.
- 456 (5) An education entity may collect optional student data if the education entity:
- 457 (a) provides, to an individual described in Subsection (4), a student data collection
- 458 notice that includes a description of:
- 459 (i) the optional student data to be collected; and
- 460 (ii) how the education entity will use the optional student data; and
- 461 (b) obtains written consent to collect the optional student data from an individual
- 462 described in Subsection (4).
- 463 (6) An education entity may collect a student's biometric identifier or biometric information
- 464 if the education entity:
- 465 (a) provides, to an individual described in Subsection (4), a biometric information
- 466 collection notice that is separate from a student data collection notice, which states:
- 467 (i) the biometric identifier or biometric information to be collected;
- 468 (ii) the purpose of collecting the biometric identifier or biometric information; and
- 469 (iii) how the education entity will use and store the biometric identifier or biometric

- 470 information; and
- 471 (b) obtains written consent to collect the biometric identifier or biometric information  
472 from an individual described in Subsection (4).
- 473 (7) Except under the circumstances described in Subsection 53G-8-211(2), an education  
474 entity may not refer a student to an evidence-based alternative intervention described in  
475 Section 53G-8-211 without written consent.
- 476 (8) Nothing in this section prohibits an education entity from including additional  
477 information related to student and parent privacy in the notice described in Subsection  
478 (2).
- 479 (9) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an education entity may collect and  
480 share threat assessment information as authorized under Section 53G-8-806 without  
481 obtaining written consent if:
- 482 (a) the collection and sharing is necessary to protect the safety of a student, school  
483 personnel, or school property;
- 484 (b) the information is shared only with authorized personnel as described in Section  
485 53G-8-806; and
- 486 (c) the education entity complies with all procedural requirements in Section 53G-8-806.
- 487 Section 5. Section **53E-9-308** is amended to read:
- 488 **53E-9-308 (Effective 07/01/26). Sharing student data -- Prohibition --**
- 489 **Requirements for student data manager -- Authorized student data sharing.**
- 490 (1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), an education entity, including a student  
491 data manager, may not:
- 492 (i) share personally identifiable student data without written consent; or  
493 (ii) share student data with a federal agency.
- 494 (b) An education entity, including a student data manager, may share personally  
495 identifiable student data:
- 496 (i) in accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and related  
497 provisions under 20 U.S.C. Secs. 1232g and 1232h;
- 498 (ii) as required by federal law; and  
499 (iii) as described in Subsections (3), (5), and (6).
- 500 (2) A student data manager shall:
- 501 (a) authorize and manage the sharing, outside of the student data manager's education  
502 entity, of personally identifiable student data for the education entity as described in  
503 this section;

- 504 (b) act as the primary local point of contact for the state student data officer described in  
505 Section 53E-9-302; and
- 506 (c) fulfill other responsibilities described in the data governance plan of the student data  
507 manager's education entity.
- 508 (3) A student data manager may share a student's personally identifiable student data with a  
509 caseworker or representative of the Department of Health and Human Services if:
- 510 (a) the Department of Health and Human Services is:
- 511 (i) legally responsible for the care and protection of the student, including the  
512 responsibility to investigate a report of educational neglect, as provided in  
513 Subsection 80-2-701(5); or
- 514 (ii) providing services to the student;
- 515 (b) the student's personally identifiable student data is not shared with a person who is  
516 not authorized:
- 517 (i) to address the student's education needs; or
- 518 (ii) by the Department of Health and Human Services to receive the student's  
519 personally identifiable student data; and
- 520 (c) the Department of Health and Human Services maintains and protects the student's  
521 personally identifiable student data.
- 522 (4) The Department of Health and Human Services, a school official, or the Utah Juvenile  
523 Court may share personally identifiable student data to improve education outcomes for  
524 youth:
- 525 (a) in the custody of, or under the guardianship of, the Department of Health and Human  
526 Services;
- 527 (b) receiving services from the Division of Juvenile Justice and Youth Services;
- 528 (c) in the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services;
- 529 (d) receiving services from the Division of Services for People with Disabilities; or
- 530 (e) under the jurisdiction of the Utah Juvenile Court.
- 531 (5)(a) A student data manager may share personally identifiable student data in response  
532 to a subpoena issued by a court.
- 533 (b) A person who receives personally identifiable student data under Subsection (5)(a)  
534 may not use the personally identifiable student data outside of the use described in  
535 the subpoena.
- 536 (6)(a) A student data manager may share student data, including personally identifiable  
537 student data, in response to a request to share student data for the purpose of research

- 538 or evaluation, if the student data manager:
- 539 (i) verifies that the request meets the requirements of 34 C.F.R. Sec. 99.31(a)(6);
- 540 (ii) submits the request to the education entity's research review process; and
- 541 (iii) fulfills the instructions that result from the review process.
- 542 (b)(i) In accordance with state and federal law, and subject to Subsection (6)(b)(ii),
- 543 the state board shall share student data, including personally identifiable student
- 544 data, as requested by the Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disabilities
- 545 described in Section 26B-7-115.
- 546 (ii)(A) At least 30 days before the state board shares student data in accordance
- 547 with Subsection (6)(b)(i), the education entity from which the state board
- 548 received the student data shall provide notice to the parent of each student for
- 549 which the state board intends to share student data.
- 550 (B) The state board may not, for a particular student, share student data as
- 551 described in Subsection (6)(b)(i) if the student's parent requests that the state
- 552 board not share the student data.
- 553 (iii) A person who receives student data under Subsection (6)(b)(i):
- 554 (A) shall maintain and protect the student data in accordance with state board rule
- 555 described in Section 53E-9-307;
- 556 (B) may not use the student data for a purpose not described in Section 26B-7-115;
- 557 and
- 558 (C) is subject to audit by the state student data officer described in Section
- 559 53E-9-302.
- 560 (7) A student data manager may share threat assessment information described in Section
- 561 53G-8-806 if:
- 562 (a) the sharing is necessary to protect the safety of a student, school personnel, or school
- 563 property;
- 564 (b) the recipient is an authorized education entity or law enforcement agency; and
- 565 (c) all procedural requirements in Section 53G-8-806 are followed.
- 566 Section 6. Section **53G-8-701.5** is amended to read:
- 567 **53G-8-701.5 (Effective 07/01/26). School safety needs assessment -- School safety**
- 568 **personnel -- Alternative requirements.**
- 569 (1)(a) In accordance with Subsections (1)(c) through (e), no later than October 15 of an
- 570 applicable year, an LEA shall:
- 571 (i) ensure a school safety needs assessment the state security chief selects in

- 572 collaboration with the school safety center is conducted in accordance with  
573 Subsection (1)(b) for each school or K-12 campus within the LEA to determine  
574 the needs and deficiencies regarding:
- 575 (A) appropriate school safety personnel, including necessary supports, training,  
576 and policy creation for the personnel;
  - 577 (B) physical building security and safety, including required upgrades to facilities  
578 and safety technology;
  - 579 (C) a school's current threat and emergency response protocols, including any  
580 emergency response agreements with local law enforcement;
  - 581 (D) student threat assessment information described in 53G-8-806;
  - 582 [~~E~~] (E) cardiac emergency preparedness, including an inventory of whether  
583 automated external defibrillators are present and accessible, maintenance  
584 status, and current staff training offerings; and
  - 585 [~~E~~] (F) compliance with universal access key box requirements under Section  
586 53G-8-805; and
- 587 (ii) report the results of the school safety needs assessment for each school within the  
588 LEA to the state security chief and the School Safety Center.
- 589 (b)(i) The school safety specialist described in Section 53G-8-701.6, in collaboration  
590 with the county security chief, and with the local law enforcement of relevant  
591 jurisdiction over the school as described in Section 53-25-701, shall conduct the  
592 school safety needs assessment for each school.
- 593 (ii) A school safety and security director may fulfill the role of a school safety and  
594 security specialist in conducting the school safety needs assessment.
- 595 (c) The school safety needs assessment required under Subsection (1)(a)(i) shall be  
596 conducted at least once every three years for each school or K-12 campus.
- 597 (d) An LEA may implement a rotating or staggered schedule for conducting school  
598 safety needs assessments among the buildings within the LEA, provided that:
- 599 (i) each school within a K-12 campus is assessed at least once every three years; and
  - 600 (ii) the LEA documents the rotating or staggered assessment schedule and shares this  
601 schedule with the state security chief, the School Safety Center, the county  
602 security chief, and the local law enforcement of relevant jurisdiction as described  
603 in Section 53-25-701.
- 604 (e) The LEA shall update the assessment schedule as necessary to ensure compliance  
605 with the three-year assessment requirement under Subsection (1)(c).

- 606 (f) The state board shall use the results of the school safety needs assessment for each  
607 school within an LEA to award a grant to an LEA in accordance with Section  
608 53F-5-220.
- 609 (g) Any information or record detailing a school's needs assessment results is:  
610 (i) a private, controlled, or protected record under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government  
611 Records Access and Management Act; and  
612 (ii) available only to:  
613 (A) the state security chief;  
614 (B) the School Safety Center;  
615 (C) members of an LEA governing board;  
616 (D) administrators of the LEA and school the needs assessment concerns;  
617 (E) only to the extent necessary to award a grant under Section 53F-5-220, the  
618 state board;  
619 (F) the applicable school safety personnel described in Subsection (2);  
620 (G) a local law enforcement agency that would respond to the school in case of an  
621 emergency; and  
622 (H) the county security chief.
- 623 (h) An individual who intentionally or knowingly provides the information described in  
624 Subsection (1)(g) to an individual or entity not listed in Subsection (1)(g)(ii) is guilty  
625 of a class B misdemeanor.
- 626 (2)(a) An LEA shall ensure each school within the LEA has the following school safety  
627 personnel:  
628 (i) a school safety and security specialist described in Section 53G-8-701.6; and  
629 (ii) based on the results of the needs assessment described in Subsection (1), at least  
630 one of the following:  
631 (A) a school resource officer;  
632 (B) a school guardian; or  
633 (C) an armed school security guard.
- 634 (b) In addition to the school safety personnel described in Subsection (2)(a), an LEA  
635 shall designate a school safety and security director described in Section 53G-8-701.8.
- 636 (c) The same individual may serve in more than one of the roles listed in Subsections  
637 (2)(a) and (b) if the school notifies the School Safety Center and the state security  
638 chief of the decision to have the same individual serve in multiple roles as described  
639 in this Subsection (2).

- 640 (d) An LEA may implement the requirements of Subsection (2)(a)(ii) before the LEA  
641 has completed the school safety needs assessment described in Subsection (1).
- 642 (e) The state security chief in consultation with the School Safety Center shall establish  
643 a timeline for an LEA to comply with the school safety personnel requirements of  
644 this Subsection (2).
- 645 (3)(a) An LEA, school administrator, or private school may apply to the state security  
646 chief for an approved alternative to the requirements described in:
- 647 (i) Section 53-22-105;
  - 648 (ii) this section;
  - 649 (iii) Section 53G-8-701.6;
  - 650 (iv) Section 53G-8-701.8; and
  - 651 (v) Section 53G-8-704.
- 652 (b) In approving or denying an application described in Subsection (3)(a), the state  
653 security chief may consider factors that impact a school or LEA's ability to adhere to  
654 the requirements of this section, including the school or LEA's:
- 655 (i) population size;
  - 656 (ii) staffing needs or capacity;
  - 657 (iii) geographic location;
  - 658 (iv) available funding; or
  - 659 (v) general demonstration of need for an alternative to the requirements of this  
660 section.
- 661 (4) A private school shall identify an individual at the private school to serve as the safety  
662 liaison with the local law enforcement of relevant jurisdiction and the state security chief.
- 663 Section 7. Section **53G-8-802** is amended to read:
- 664 **53G-8-802 (Effective 07/01/26). State Safety and Support Program -- State board**  
665 **duties -- LEA duties.**
- 666 (1) There is created the School Safety Center.
  - 667 (2) The School Safety Center shall:
    - 668 (a) develop in conjunction with the Office of Substance Use and Mental Health and the  
669 state security chief model student safety and support policies for an LEA, including:
      - 670 (i) requiring an evidence-based behavior threat assessment that includes  
671 recommended interventions with an individual whose behavior poses a threat to  
672 school safety;
      - 673 (ii) procedures for referrals to law enforcement; and

- 674 (iii) procedures for referrals to a community services entity, a family support  
675 organization, or a health care provider for evaluation or treatment;
- 676 (b) provide training in consultation with the state security chief:
- 677 (i) in school safety;
- 678 (ii) in evidence-based approaches to improve school climate and address and correct  
679 bullying behavior;
- 680 (iii) in evidence-based approaches in identifying an individual who may pose a threat  
681 to the school community;
- 682 (iv) in evidence-based approaches in identifying an individual who may be showing  
683 signs or symptoms of mental illness;
- 684 (v) on permitted disclosures of student data to law enforcement and other support  
685 services under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec.  
686 1232g;
- 687 (vi) on permitted collection of student data under 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232h and Sections  
688 53E-9-203 and 53E-9-305; and
- 689 (vii) for administrators on rights and prohibited acts under:
- 690 (A) Chapter 9, Part 6, Bullying and Hazing;
- 691 (B) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 2000d et seq.;
- 692 (C) Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1681 et seq.;
- 693 (D) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.; and  
694 (E) the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1400 et seq.;
- 695 (c) conduct and disseminate evidence-based research on school safety concerns;
- 696 (d) disseminate information on effective school safety initiatives;
- 697 (e) encourage partnerships between public and private sectors to promote school safety;
- 698 (f) provide technical assistance to an LEA in the development and implementation of  
699 school safety initiatives;
- 700 (g) in conjunction with the state security chief, make available to an LEA the model  
701 critical incident response training program a school and law enforcement agency  
702 shall use during a threat;
- 703 (h) provide space for the public safety liaison described in Section 53-1-106 and the  
704 school-based mental health specialist described in Section 26B-5-102;
- 705 (i) collaborate with the state security chief to determine appropriate application of school  
706 safety requirements in Utah Code to an online school;
- 707 (j) create a model school climate survey that may be used by an LEA to assess

- 708 stakeholder perception of a school environment;
- 709 (k) in accordance with Section 53G-5-202, establish a charter school liaison including
- 710 defined responsibilities for charter school communication and coordination with the
- 711 School Safety Center;[~~and~~]
- 712 (l) assist a foundation described in Section 53-22-108 in distributing school safety
- 713 products if a foundation seeks assistance;
- 714 (m) establishes defined roles for a multidisciplinary team and school safety personnel
- 715 described in Chapter 8, Part 7, School Safety Personnel;
- 716 (n) assist LEAs in implementing and maintaining universal access key box requirements
- 717 under Section 53G-8-805;
- 718 (o) in consultation with the state security chief, select a system to track relevant data,
- 719 including the tracking required in Sections 53-22-105, 53G-8-701.5, 53G-8-701.8,
- 720 and 53G-8-704;[~~and~~]
- 721 (p) collect aggregate data and school climate survey results from an LEA that
- 722 administers the model school climate survey described in Subsection (2)(j)[~~]~~ ;
- 723 (q) provide training to LEAs on threat assessment protocols; and
- 724 (r) establish best practices for threat assessment teams and information sharing.
- 725 (3) Nothing in this section requires:
- 726 (a) an individual to respond to a school climate survey; or
- 727 (b) an LEA to use the model school climate survey or any specified questions in the
- 728 model school climate survey described in Subsection (2)(j).
- 729 (4) The state board shall require an LEA to:
- 730 (a)(i) if an LEA administers a school climate survey, review school climate data for
- 731 each school within the LEA; and
- 732 (ii) based on the review described in Subsection (4)(a)(i):
- 733 (A) revise practices, policies, and training to eliminate harassment and
- 734 discrimination in each school within the LEA;
- 735 (B) adopt a plan for harassment- and discrimination-free learning; and
- 736 (C) host outreach events or assemblies to inform students and parents of the plan
- 737 adopted under Subsection (4)(a)(ii)(B);
- 738 (b) no later than September 1 of each school year, send a notice to each student, parent,
- 739 and LEA staff member stating the LEA's commitment to maintaining a school
- 740 climate that is free of harassment and discrimination; and
- 741 (c) report to the state board annually on the LEA's implementation of the plan under

742 Subsection (4)(a)(ii)(B) and progress.

743 Section 8. Section **53G-8-806** is enacted to read:

744 **53G-8-806 (Effective 07/01/26). Student threat information sharing -- Definitions**  
745 **-- Requirements -- Procedures.**

746 (1) As used in this section:

747 (a) "Credible threat" means a threat that has been evaluated by a threat assessment team  
748 and determined to pose a potential risk of physical violence, serious bodily injury, or  
749 significant property damage to students, school personnel, or school property, based  
750 on:

751 (i) the specificity and plausibility of the threat;

752 (ii) the student's access to means to carry out the threat;

753 (iii) the student's history of concerning behaviors; and

754 (iv) other relevant factors identified through evidence-based threat assessment  
755 protocols.

756 (b) "Threat assessment information" means:

757 (i) the nature and content of a credible threat;

758 (ii) the name of the student who made the threat, including known aliases;

759 (iii) the target or targets of the threat;

760 (iv) the threat assessment team's evaluation and risk determination;

761 (v) any safety interventions or support services provided; and

762 (vi) other information relevant to preventing violence and ensuring school safety.

763 (c) "Threat assessment team" means a multidisciplinary team established by an LEA that  
764 includes:

765 (i) a school administrator;

766 (ii) school safety personnel, including:

767 (A) a school safety and security specialist described in Section 53G-7-701; or

768 (B) a school resource officer;

769 (iii) if available, a mental health professional; and

770 (iv) other individuals as determined appropriate by the LEA.

771 (2) The state board shall:

772 (a) require LEAs to report when a student has presented a credible threat;

773 (b) enables authorized personnel from other LEAs to access threat flag; and

774 (c) maintains appropriate security and access controls.

775 (3) An LEA shall place a flag on a student record when:

- 776 (a) a threat assessment team determines that a student has made a credible threat;  
777 (b) the threat involves potential harm to:  
778 (i) a student;  
779 (ii) school personnel; or  
780 (iii) school property; or  
781 (c) the threat involves weapons or explosive devices; or  
782 (d) the threat assessment team determines that sharing the information is necessary to  
783 protect student and school safety.
- 784 (4) In accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, the  
785 state board may establish rules and procedures for the sharing of student threat  
786 information.
- 787 (5) The state board shall:  
788 (a) provide training to LEAs on the sharing of the student threat information;  
789 (b) conduct regular audits of student threat information sharing;  
790 (c) ensure compliance with all privacy and security requirements; and  
791 (d) report annually by October 1 to the Education Interim Committee on the operation  
792 and effectiveness of the student threat information, including:  
793 (i) training completion rates for LEA personnel; and  
794 (ii) aggregate data on threat prevention outcomes, appropriately anonymized to  
795 protect student privacy.
- 796 (6) An LEA, the state board, or any employee of an LEA or the state board acting within  
797 the scope of employment in reporting, accessing, or using threat assessment information  
798 under this section in compliance with the procedures established in this section:  
799 (a) is entitled to the protections provided under Title 63G, Chapter 7, Governmental  
800 Immunity Act of Utah; and  
801 (b) is presumed to be acting in good faith unless clear and convincing evidence  
802 demonstrates otherwise.
- 803 (7) Nothing in this section:  
804 (a) requires an LEA to establish an additional threat assessment team if one already  
805 exists;  
806 (b) supersedes any more stringent privacy protections under state or federal law;  
807 (c) authorizes the collection or sharing of information beyond what is necessary for  
808 school safety; or  
809 (d) creates a private right of action.

810           Section 9. **Effective Date.**

811           This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.