{deleted text} shows text that was in HB0288S01 but was deleted in HB0288S02.

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0288S01 but was inserted into HB0288S02.

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**Senator Curtis S. Bramble** proposes the following substitute bill:

#### EDUCATIONAL RECORDS PROTECTION AMENDMENTS

2016 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Craig Hall** 

Senate Sponsor: Todd Weiler

#### **LONG TITLE**

#### **General Description:**

This bill amends provisions related to {records to which access is governed or limited by statute, rule, or regulation}education records and other records.

#### **Highlighted Provisions:**

#### This bill:

- ► {adds a reference to education records in} amends provisions related to { records to which access is governed by statute, rule, or regulation} the annual training of a records officer;
- amends provisions related to education records as defined under federal law;
- amends provisions related to the review of disputed records; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

#### **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

#### **Other Special Clauses:**

None

#### **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**63G-2-108**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 377

63G-2-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2013, Chapter 445

63G-2-403, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 335

63G-2-404, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 335

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

Section 1. Section **63G-2-108** is amended to read:

#### 63G-2-108. Certification of records officer.

- (1) Each records officer of a governmental entity or political subdivision shall, on an annual basis, successfully complete online training and obtain certification from state archives in accordance with Section 63A-12-110.
- (2) A governmental entity that is subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, shall require the governmental entity's records officer to successfully complete training, in addition to the training described in Subsection (1), on the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g.

Section  $\{1\}$ 2. Section 63G-2-201 is amended to read:

#### 63G-2-201. Right to inspect records and receive copies of records.

- (1) Every person has the right to inspect a public record free of charge, and the right to take a copy of a public record during normal working hours, subject to Sections 63G-2-203 and 63G-2-204.
  - (2) A record is public unless otherwise expressly provided by statute.
  - (3) The following records are not public:
- (a) a record that is private, controlled, or protected under Sections 63G-2-302, 63G-2-303, 63G-2-304, and 63G-2-305; and
- (b) a record to which access is restricted pursuant to court rule, another state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation, including records for which access is governed or

restricted as a condition of participation in a state or federal program or for receiving state or federal funds.

- (4) Only a record specified in Section 63G-2-302, 63G-2-303, 63G-2-304, or 63G-2-305 may be classified private, controlled, or protected.
- (5) (a) A governmental entity may not disclose a record that is private, controlled, or protected to any person except as provided in Subsection (5)(b), Subsection (5)(c), Section 63G-2-202, 63G-2-206, or 63G-2-303.
- (b) A governmental entity may disclose a record that is private under Subsection 63G-2-302(2) or protected under Section 63G-2-305 to persons other than those specified in Section 63G-2-202 or 63G-2-206 if the head of a governmental entity, or a designee, determines that:
  - (i) there is no interest in restricting access to the record; or
- (ii) the interests favoring access are greater than or equal to the interest favoring restriction of access.
- (c) In addition to the disclosure under Subsection (5)(b), a governmental entity may disclose a record that is protected under Subsection 63G-2-305(51) if:
  - (i) the head of the governmental entity, or a designee, determines that the disclosure:
  - (A) is mutually beneficial to:
  - (I) the subject of the record;
  - (II) the governmental entity; and
  - (III) the public; and
  - (B) serves a public purpose related to:
  - (I) public safety; or
  - (II) consumer protection; and
- (ii) the person who receives the record from the governmental entity agrees not to use or allow the use of the record for advertising or solicitation purposes.
- (6) (a) The disclosure of a record to which access is governed or limited pursuant to court rule, another state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation, including a record for which access is governed or limited as a condition of participation in a state or federal program or for receiving state or federal funds, and including an education record as defined in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, is governed by the specific

provisions of that statute, rule, or regulation.

- (b) This chapter applies to records described in Subsection (6)(a) insofar as this chapter is not inconsistent with the statute, rule, or regulation.
  - (7) A governmental entity shall provide a person with a certified copy of a record if:
  - (a) the person requesting the record has a right to inspect it;
  - (b) the person identifies the record with reasonable specificity; and
  - (c) the person pays the lawful fees.
  - (8) (a) In response to a request, a governmental entity is not required to:
  - (i) create a record;
  - (ii) compile, format, manipulate, package, summarize, or tailor information;
- (iii) provide a record in a particular format, medium, or program not currently maintained by the governmental entity;
- (iv) fulfill a person's records request if the request unreasonably duplicates prior records requests from that person; or
  - (v) fill a person's records request if:
- (A) the record requested is accessible in the identical physical form and content in a public publication or product produced by the governmental entity receiving the request;
- (B) the governmental entity provides the person requesting the record with the public publication or product; and
- (C) the governmental entity specifies where the record can be found in the public publication or product.
- (b) Upon request, a governmental entity may provide a record in a particular form under Subsection (8)(a)(ii) or (iii) if:
- (i) the governmental entity determines it is able to do so without unreasonably interfering with the governmental entity's duties and responsibilities; and
- (ii) the requester agrees to pay the governmental entity for providing the record in the requested form in accordance with Section 63G-2-203.
- (9) (a) A governmental entity may allow a person requesting more than 50 pages of records to copy the records if:
- (i) the records are contained in files that do not contain records that are exempt from disclosure, or the records may be segregated to remove private, protected, or controlled

information from disclosure; and

- (ii) the governmental entity provides reasonable safeguards to protect the public from the potential for loss of a public record.
  - (b) When the requirements of Subsection (9)(a) are met, the governmental entity may:
- (i) provide the requester with the facilities for copying the requested records and require that the requester make the copies; or
- (ii) allow the requester to provide the requester's own copying facilities and personnel to make the copies at the governmental entity's offices and waive the fees for copying the records.
- (10) (a) A governmental entity that owns an intellectual property right and that offers the intellectual property right for sale or license may control by ordinance or policy the duplication and distribution of the material based on terms the governmental entity considers to be in the public interest.
- (b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or impair the rights or protections granted to the governmental entity under federal copyright or patent law as a result of its ownership of the intellectual property right.
- (11) A governmental entity may not use the physical form, electronic or otherwise, in which a record is stored to deny, or unreasonably hinder the rights of a person to inspect and receive a copy of a record under this chapter.
- (12) Subject to the requirements of Subsection (8), a governmental entity shall provide access to an electronic copy of a record in lieu of providing access to its paper equivalent if:
  - (a) the person making the request requests or states a preference for an electronic copy;
- (b) the governmental entity currently maintains the record in an electronic format that is reproducible and may be provided without reformatting or conversion; and
  - (c) the electronic copy of the record:
  - (i) does not disclose other records that are exempt from disclosure; or
- (ii) may be segregated to protect private, protected, or controlled information from disclosure without the undue expenditure of public resources or funds.

Section 3. Section 63G-2-403 is amended to read:

63G-2-403. Appeals to the records committee.

(1) (a) A records committee appellant appeals to the records committee by filing a

notice of appeal with the executive secretary of the records committee no later than 30 days after the date of issuance of the decision being appealed.

- (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (1)(a), a requester may file a notice of appeal with the executive secretary of the records committee no later than 45 days after the day on which the record request is made if:
  - (i) the circumstances described in Subsection 63G-2-401(1)(b) occur; and
  - (ii) the chief administrative officer fails to make a decision under Section 63G-2-401.
  - (2) The notice of appeal shall:
- (a) contain the name, mailing address, and daytime telephone number of the records committee appellant;
  - (b) be accompanied by a copy of the decision being appealed; and
  - (c) state the relief sought.
  - (3) The records committee appellant:
- (a) shall, on the day on which the notice of appeal is filed with the records committee, serve a copy of the notice of appeal on:
- (i) the governmental entity whose access denial is the subject of the appeal, if the records committee appellant is a requester or interested party; or
- (ii) the requester or interested party who is a party to the local appeals board proceeding that resulted in the decision that the political subdivision is appealing to the records committee, if the records committee appellant is a political subdivision; and
- (b) may file a short statement of facts, reasons, and legal authority in support of the appeal.
- (4) (a) Except as provided in Subsections (4)(b) and (c), no later than seven business days after receiving a notice of appeal, the executive secretary of the records committee shall:
- (i) schedule a hearing for the records committee to discuss the appeal at the next regularly scheduled committee meeting falling at least 16 days after the date the notice of appeal is filed but no longer than 64 calendar days after the date the notice of appeal was filed except that the records committee may schedule an expedited hearing upon application of the records committee appellant and good cause shown;
  - (ii) send a copy of the notice of hearing to the records committee appellant; and
  - (iii) send a copy of the notice of appeal, supporting statement, and a notice of hearing

to:

- (A) each member of the records committee;
- (B) the records officer and the chief administrative officer of the governmental entity whose access denial is the subject of the appeal, if the records committee appellant is a requester or interested party;
- (C) any person who made a business confidentiality claim under Section 63G-2-309 for a record that is the subject of the appeal; and
- (D) all persons who participated in the proceedings before the governmental entity's chief administrative officer, if the appeal is of the chief administrative officer's decision affirming an access denial.
- (b) (i) The executive secretary of the records committee may decline to schedule a hearing if the record series that is the subject of the appeal has been found by the committee in a previous hearing involving the same governmental entity to be appropriately classified as private, controlled, or protected.
- (ii) (A) If the executive secretary of the records committee declines to schedule a hearing, the executive secretary of the records committee shall send a notice to the records committee appellant indicating that the request for hearing has been denied and the reason for the denial.
- (B) The committee shall make rules to implement this section as provided by Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
- (c) The executive secretary of the records committee may schedule a hearing on an appeal to the records committee at a regularly scheduled records committee meeting that is later than the period described in Subsection (4)(a)(i) if that records committee meeting is the first regularly scheduled records committee meeting at which there are fewer than 10 appeals scheduled to be heard.
- (5) (a) No later than five business days before the hearing, a governmental entity shall submit to the executive secretary of the records committee a written statement of facts, reasons, and legal authority in support of the governmental entity's position.
- (b) The governmental entity shall send a copy of the written statement by first class mail, postage prepaid, to the requester or interested party involved in the appeal. The executive secretary shall forward a copy of the written statement to each member of the records

#### committee.

- (6) (a) No later than 10 business days after the notice of appeal is sent by the executive secretary, a person whose legal interests may be substantially affected by the proceeding may file a request for intervention before the records committee.
- (b) Any written statement of facts, reasons, and legal authority in support of the intervener's position shall be filed with the request for intervention.
- (c) The person seeking intervention shall provide copies of the statement described in Subsection (6)(b) to all parties to the proceedings before the records committee.
- (7) The records committee shall hold a hearing within the period of time described in Subsection (4).
- (8) At the hearing, the records committee shall allow the parties to testify, present evidence, and comment on the issues. The records committee may allow other interested persons to comment on the issues.
  - (9) (a) (i) The records committee:
  - (A) may review the disputed records; and
- (B) shall review the disputed records, if the committee is weighing the various interests under Subsection (11).
  - (ii) A review of the disputed records under Subsection (9)(a)(i) shall be in camera.
- (iii) When submitting the disputed records for in camera review, a governmental entity claiming that a disputed record is subject to Subsection 63G-2-201(6) shall clearly label the disputed record with the statement: "This record is believed to be subject to Subsection 63G-2-201(6)."
- (iv) When submitting the disputed records for in camera review, a governmental entity that is subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, that claims that a disputed record is an education record subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, shall clearly label the disputed record with the statement: "This record is believed to be an education record subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act."
- (b) Members of the records committee may not disclose any information or record reviewed by the committee in camera unless the disclosure is otherwise authorized by this chapter.

- (10) (a) Discovery is prohibited, but the records committee may issue subpoenas or other orders to compel production of necessary evidence.
- (b) When the subject of a records committee subpoena disobeys or fails to comply with the subpoena, the records committee may file a motion for an order to compel obedience to the subpoena with the district court.
- (c) (i) The records committee's review shall be de novo, if the appeal is an appeal from a decision of a chief administrative officer:
  - (A) issued under Section 63G-2-401; or
- (B) issued by a chief administrative officer of a political subdivision that has not established a local appeals board.
- (ii) For an appeal from a decision of a local appeals board, the records committee shall review and consider the decision of the local appeals board.
- (11) (a) No later than seven business days after the hearing, the records committee shall issue a signed order:
  - (i) granting the relief sought, in whole or in part; or
  - (ii) upholding the governmental entity's access denial, in whole or in part.
- (b) Except as provided in Section 63G-2-406, the records committee may, upon consideration and weighing of the various interests and public policies pertinent to the classification and disclosure or nondisclosure, order the disclosure of information properly classified as private, controlled, or protected if the public interest favoring access is greater than or equal to the interest favoring restriction of access.
- (c) In making a determination under Subsection (11)(b), the records committee shall consider and, where appropriate, limit the requester's or interested party's use and further disclosure of the record in order to protect:
  - (i) privacy interests in the case of a private or controlled record;
- (ii) business confidentiality interests in the case of a record protected under Subsection 63G-2-305(1), (2), (40)(a)(ii), or (40)(a)(vi); and
  - (iii) privacy interests or the public interest in the case of other protected records.
  - (12) The order of the records committee shall include:
- (a) a statement of reasons for the decision, including citations to this chapter, court rule or order, another state statute, federal statute, or federal regulation that governs disclosure of

- the record, if the citations do not disclose private, controlled, or protected information;
- (b) a description of the record or portions of the record to which access was ordered or denied, if the description does not disclose private, controlled, or protected information or information exempt from disclosure under Subsection 63G-2-201(3)(b);
- (c) a statement that any party to the proceeding before the records committee may appeal the records committee's decision to district court; and
- (d) a brief summary of the appeals process, the time limits for filing an appeal, and a notice that in order to protect its rights on appeal, the party may wish to seek advice from an attorney.
- (13) If the records committee fails to issue a decision within 73 calendar days of the filing of the notice of appeal, that failure is the equivalent of an order denying the appeal. A records committee appellant shall notify the records committee in writing if the records committee appellant considers the appeal denied.
- (14) A party to a proceeding before the records committee may seek judicial review in district court of a records committee order by filing a petition for review of the records committee order as provided in Section 63G-2-404.
- (15) (a) Unless a notice of intent to appeal is filed under Subsection (15)(b), each party to the proceeding shall comply with the order of the records committee.
- (b) If a party disagrees with the order of the records committee, that party may file a notice of intent to appeal the order of the records committee.
- (c) If the records committee orders the governmental entity to produce a record and no appeal is filed, or if, as a result of the appeal, the governmental entity is required to produce a record, the governmental entity shall:
  - (i) produce the record; and
  - (ii) file a notice of compliance with the records committee.
- (d) (i) If the governmental entity that is ordered to produce a record fails to file a notice of compliance or a notice of intent to appeal, the records committee may do either or both of the following:
  - (A) impose a civil penalty of up to \$500 for each day of continuing noncompliance; or
  - (B) send written notice of the governmental entity's noncompliance to:
  - (I) the governor for executive branch entities;

- (II) the Legislative Management Committee for legislative branch entities; and
- (III) the Judicial Council for judicial branch agencies entities.
- (ii) In imposing a civil penalty, the records committee shall consider the gravity and circumstances of the violation, including whether the failure to comply was due to neglect or was willful or intentional.

### Section 4. Section 63G-2-404 is amended to read:

#### 63G-2-404. Judicial review.

- (1) (a) A petition for judicial review of an order or decision, as allowed under this part or in Subsection 63G-2-701(6)(a)(ii), shall be filed no later than 30 days after the date of the order or decision.
- (b) The records committee is a necessary party to a petition for judicial review of a records committee order.
- (c) The executive secretary of the records committee shall be served with notice of a petition for judicial review of a records committee order, in accordance with the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure.
- (2) A petition for judicial review is a complaint governed by the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure and shall contain:
  - (a) the petitioner's name and mailing address;
- (b) a copy of the records committee order from which the appeal is taken, if the petitioner is seeking judicial review of an order of the records committee;
- (c) the name and mailing address of the governmental entity that issued the initial determination with a copy of that determination;
  - (d) a request for relief specifying the type and extent of relief requested; and
  - (e) a statement of the reasons why the petitioner is entitled to relief.
- (3) If the appeal is based on the denial of access to a protected record based on a claim of business confidentiality, the court shall allow the claimant of business confidentiality to provide to the court the reasons for the claim of business confidentiality.
- (4) All additional pleadings and proceedings in the district court are governed by the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure.
  - (5) (a) The district court may review the disputed records.
  - (b) The review of the disputed records shall be in camera.

- (c) When submitting the disputed records for in camera review, a governmental entity claiming that a disputed record is subject to Subsection 63G-2-201(6) shall clearly label the disputed record with the statement: "This record is believed to be subject to Subsection 63G-2-201(6)."
- (d) When submitting the disputed records for in camera review, a governmental entity that is subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, that claims that a disputed record is an education record subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 1232g, shall clearly label the disputed record with the statement: "This record is believed to be an education record subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act."
  - (6) The court shall:
- (a) make its decision de novo, but, for a petition seeking judicial review of a records committee order, allow introduction of evidence presented to the records committee;
  - (b) determine all questions of fact and law without a jury; and
  - (c) decide the issue at the earliest practical opportunity.
- (7) (a) Except as provided in Section 63G-2-406, the court may, upon consideration and weighing of the various interests and public policies pertinent to the classification and disclosure or nondisclosure, order the disclosure of information properly classified as private, controlled, or protected if the interest favoring access is greater than or equal to the interest favoring restriction of access.
- (b) The court shall consider and, where appropriate, limit the requester's use and further disclosure of the record in order to protect privacy interests in the case of private or controlled records, business confidentiality interests in the case of records protected under Subsections 63G-2-305(1) and (2), and privacy interests or the public interest in the case of other protected records.