

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 632

BY REPRESENTATIVE SPELL

STUDENTS: Provides relative to information sharing for the purposes of Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation (LA FIRST)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3138.12(E), (F), and (H)(2) and to enact R.S. 17:3914(P) and
3 3996(B)(24), relative to Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for
4 Transformation; to provide relative to information sharing for system purposes; to
5 provide for definitions; to provide for applicability; to provide for effectiveness; and
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.12(E), (F), and (H)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted
9 and R.S. 17:3914(P) and 3996(B)(24) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §3138.12. Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation
11 (LA FIRST)

12 * * *

13 E. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, LA FIRST, through
14 the Board of Regents, shall be provided access to all data listed in the data-sharing
15 agreement developed with each state entity. Access to the data of each entity listed
16 in Paragraph (C)(1) of this Section shall be provided through the office of technology
17 services on equipment provided by the office of technology services. Once the
18 Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center has been provided access to the
19 data, the policy center shall comply with all restrictions imposed by law on any of
20 the data received that is deemed confidential, privileged, or otherwise restricted, and

1 any reports that use the data shall be released or published only in a manner that
2 complies with the restrictions. Under no circumstances shall data housed in the LA
3 FIRST data system be sold to third parties.

4 F.(1) For the purposes of this Section, "personal information" means a
5 person's social security number, full name, and date of birth, and "nonpersonal
6 information" means all other data housed in the LA FIRST data system.

7 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of R.S. 17:3914 or any other law to the
8 contrary, each ~~city, parish, or other local public school board~~ public school
9 governing authority shall ~~directly~~ share, at least annually, student data with the
10 Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center ~~and any department listed in~~
11 Subsection C of this Section in order to carry out the provisions of this Section and
12 the goals of the data-sharing agreements. ~~for use in the LA FIRST data system.~~

13 (3)(a) To facilitate the sharing of a portion of this student personal
14 information, each public school governing authority shall directly share personal
15 information for high school students with the state Department of Education, which
16 shall share such information with the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy
17 Center in order to carry out the provisions of this Section.

18 (b) The State Department of Education may develop and implement a
19 streamlined information sharing process for the purposes of this Subsection,
20 including but not limited to the incorporation of the information sharing
21 requirements of this Subsection into any other data-sharing agreements it has with
22 public school governing authorities, the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy
23 Center, or any other state entity as provided in this Section or in any other provision
24 of law.

25 (c) The state Department of Education shall develop and implement a
26 process for parents to opt out of the information sharing process provided for in
27 Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph upon registration as part of an existing data
28 sharing information notice or parental consent process.

29 * * *

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 H.

2 * * *

3 (2) The shared data shall be separated into two parts, personal and
4 nonpersonal information. Personal information and nonpersonal information shall
5 be transferred and stored separately. Personal information shall be used only to
6 generate a unique identifier for each record, ~~which shall then be combined with~~
7 ~~nonpersonal information to allow for matching of records across the data system or~~
8 to produce generalized or aggregated information to support analysis. A limited set
9 of nonpersonal information may be incorporated into the matching process.
10 Research and analysis shall not be conducted on data that includes ~~personally~~
11 ~~identifiable~~ personal information.

12 * * *

13 §3914. Student information; privacy; legislative intent; definitions; prohibitions;
14 parental access; penalties

15 * * *

16 P. Notwithstanding any provision of this Section to the contrary, each public
17 school governing authority shall share personal information as defined in R.S.
18 17:3138.12 matched to unique student identification numbers with the state
19 Department of Education, which shall share the information as provided in R.S.
20 17:3138.12(F) for purposes of Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System
21 for Transformation.

22 * * *

23 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

24 * * *

25 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
26 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
27 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
28 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
29 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are

1 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
2 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

3 * * *

4 (24) Student information sharing, R.S. 17:3138.12.

5 * * *

6 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on November 30, 2026.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 632 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Spell

Abstract: Provides relative to information sharing for purposes of the Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation (LA FIRST).

LA FIRST, generally

Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to establish and maintain Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation (LA FIRST) at the University of La. at Lafayette within the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center (Blanco Center). Provides for data sharing agreements between various entities, including specified state agencies, for the purpose of the publication of annual reports on various topics, including education, workforce development, and criminal justice. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that LA FIRST, through the Bd. of Regents, shall be provided access to all data listed in the data-sharing agreement developed with each state entity. Requires the Blanco Center to comply with all restrictions imposed by present law on any data deemed confidential, privileged, or otherwise restricted, provides that any reports using the data shall be released or published only in a manner that complies with such restrictions. Proposed law retains present law and adds that under no circumstances shall data housed in the LA FIRST data system be sold to third parties.

Present law provides that the shared data shall be separated into two parts, personal information and nonpersonal information. Proposed law retains present law and adds that personal information and nonpersonal information shall be transferred and stored separately.

Proposed law defines "personal information" as a person's social security number, full name, and date of birth and "nonpersonal information" as all other data housed in the LA FIRST data system.

Present law provides that personal information shall be used only to generate a unique identifier for each record, which shall be combined with nonpersonal information to allow for the matching of records across the data system. Proposed law removes the requirement that the identifier be combined for such purpose and instead allows personal information also to be used to produce generalized or aggregated information to support analysis. Also allows a limit set of nonpersonal information to be incorporated into the matching process.

Present law prohibits research and analysis from being conducted on data that includes personally identifiable information. Proposed law instead prohibits this on data that includes personal information.

LA FIRST, K-12 student information

Present law requires each city, parish, or other local public school board to directly share student data with the Blanco Center and agencies specified in present law. Proposed law broadens the application of present law to the governing authorities of all public schools (including charter schools) and specifies that they share student data, at least annually, with the Blanco Center for use in the LA FIRST data system. Proposed law requires DOE to develop and implement a process for parents to opt out of this information sharing process upon registration as part of an existing data sharing information notice or parental consent process.

Proposed law further requires each public school governing authority to directly share personal information for high school students with DOE and requires DOE to share the information with the Blanco Center.

Proposed law authorizes DOE to implement a streamlined information sharing process, including incorporating information sharing requirements into existing data-sharing agreements.

Present law, relative to student data privacy, prohibits sharing a student's personally identifiable information and provides exceptions. Proposed law adds an exception by requiring each public school governing authority to share personal information as defined in proposed law with DOE and requiring DOE to share the information, matched to unique student identification numbers, as provided in proposed law.

Effective November 30, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:3138.12(E), (F), and (H)(2); Adds R.S. 17:3914(P) and 3996(B)(24))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Remove requirements that the initial set of personal information that school governing authorities share with DOE include existing personal information for current students as well as at least five years of historical personal information available for former students, that DOE share this information with the Blanco Center, and that shared data be updated at least annually.
2. Prohibit data housed in the LA FIRST data system from being sold to third parties.
3. Add that personal information and nonpersonal information shall be transferred and stored separately.
4. Require DOE to implement a process for parents to opt out of the information sharing process through which school governing authorities share information at least annually with the Blanco Center upon registration as part of an existing data sharing information notice or parental consent process.
5. Add a requirement that school governing authorities share personal information for high school students directly with DOE and that DOE share it with the Blanco Center.

6. Modify the allowable uses of personal information.
7. Specify that information shared with DOE by school governing authorities be matched to unique student identification numbers.
8. Add that proposed law becomes effective on Nov. 30, 2026.