
DIGEST

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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.