



HOUSE BILL 378: Leon's Law (Dual Enrollment Info Parents).

2025-2026 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 9, 2025
Introduced by:	Reps. Pickett, Cotham, Liu, Hawkins	Prepared by:	Michael Whitfield
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 378 would require community colleges to provide parents with education records of certain minor students and require those students to acknowledge parental access to their records.*

CURRENT LAW: The Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requires that educational institutions receiving federal funding provide parents with the right to review the education records of their minor children enrolled in primary and secondary educational institutions. 20 U.S.C. §1232g(a)(1)(A). FERPA provides that when a student reaches the age of 18 or enrolls in an institution of postsecondary education, rights pertaining to review of education records only apply to the student. §1232g(d). Privacy and review rights under FERPA are subject to several exceptions. Under §1232g(b)(1)(H), educational institutions may, but are not required to, share education records with the parents of a dependent child, even after the student reaches the age of 18 or enrolls in an institution of postsecondary education.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 378 would require the State Board of Community Colleges to direct each community college to adopt a policy that does the following:

- To the extent allowable under FERPA, the community college must provide education records of minor students to that student's parents if three criteria are met:
 1. The student is below the age of 18.
 2. The student is a dependent, for tax purposes, of the parent.
 3. The parent has not opted out of receiving the education records.
- The community college must require students whose education records are subject to parental review to complete a form prior to registration in any course at the community college acknowledging that the parents of the student have access to their education records.

Additionally, the bill provides that "parent" is defined as the parent, guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or guardian of the student for the purposes of the proposed section.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective when it becomes law and would apply beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

Kara McCraw
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578