

Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 733
Education – Student Data Privacy – Reports and Student Data Privacy Council Sunset Extension

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
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The Maryland State Education Association supports SB 733, legislation that originated in the Student Data Privacy Council and aims to help protect student data.

MSEA represents 75,000 educators and school employees who work in Maryland's public schools, teaching and preparing our 896,837 students for careers and jobs of the future. MSEA also represents 39 local affiliates in every county across the state of Maryland, and our parent affiliate is the 3 million-member National Education Association (NEA).

MSEA is proud to serve on the Student Data Privacy Council and hopes to continue, should this bill and the Council's extension of service be passed into law. MSEA agrees that we must do all we can to ensure to protect student and educator data in all forms. This bill expands the coverage of what would be deemed confidential information, in an effort to protect students from identity fraud and theft as well making them vulnerable to intrusive marketing.

MSEA looks forward to further discussions on vetting online tools in a systemic way, while also maintaining educator autonomy in determining which tools are best for their students. The extension of the Council's work will allow for conversations on this topic.

MSEA urges a favorable report of Senate Bill 733.