

Testimony
Education Committee Public Hearing
March 18, 2015
Bill # 7017 : An Act Concerning Student Data and Privacy

My name is Chris Simo-Kinzer and I am a concerned parent of 3 in the Plymouth public school system.

While this bill is a 'good start,' it does not address the privacy concerns of P20-WIN. Full disclosure of the P20-WINS data system is a MUST and a consent form must be signed by parents to allow for ANY information on a student under 18 to be collected. Anything more than an ambiguous student ID number, age, and grades is an egregious violation of personal privacy rights.

There is no reason anyone should be collecting: social security numbers, race, religious beliefs and political affiliation, any biometric, psychological or behavioral information, and economic status on students – let alone have this information available for viewing and/or sale to the highest bidder. This is not only a 'none of your business' issue, but also holds a severely dangerous potential for identity theft.

As we've seen over the past year, with breaches in companies like Target, Home Depot, Sony, and most recently Anthem; the damage that could be caused to someone's personal records is conceivably catastrophic. Having a background in IT I can speak with knowledge on this very real threat.

I urge you to address the language in this bill regarding the data collected and the P20-WIN system on the whole.

Thank you

Christopher Simo-Kinzer
52 Old Farm Rd.
Terryville CT 06786