

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 22

Adopted in Assembly June 15, 2005

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Adopted in Senate August 25, 2005

Secretary of the Senate

This resolution was received by the Secretary of State this
_____ day of _____, 2005, at _____
o'clock ____M.

Deputy Secretary of State

RESOLUTION CHAPTER _____

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 22—Relative to school records.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 22, Bass. School records.

This measure would memorialize the Congress and the President to enact an exception to the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act to allow schools to share relevant pupil records with interagency child death teams.

WHEREAS, Existing law authorizes each county to establish an interagency child death team to assist local agencies in identifying and reviewing suspicious child deaths. Those teams coordinate and integrate state and local efforts to address fatal child abuse or neglect and create a body of information to help prevent child deaths; and

WHEREAS, Interagency child death teams have been used successfully to ensure that incidents of child abuse or neglect are recognized and that other siblings and nonoffending family members receive appropriate services in incidents in which a child has expired; and

WHEREAS, Child death teams may include forensic pathologists, pediatricians with expertise in child abuse, coroners and medical examiners, prosecutors, members of law enforcement, child protective services staff, representatives of local agencies involved with child abuse or neglect reporting, and county health departments; and

WHEREAS, Members of child death teams may share relevant, confidential information within the multiagency setting; and

WHEREAS, Educational agencies, which could provide valuable school record information to child death teams, are not authorized to share such information with child death teams; and

WHEREAS, The federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not provide an exception allowing schools to share relevant pupil records with child death teams

and a violation of FERPA could result in the loss of federal funding; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature urges the Congress of the United States to immediately enact an exception to FERPA to permit schools to share with child death teams any relevant pupil records; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of the State of California urges the President of the United States to immediately sign the enactment; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

Attest:

Secretary of State