



Legislative Testimony
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**Written Testimony Supporting
House Bill 5444, An Act Concerning Revisions to the
Student Data Privacy Act**

Senator Boucher, Senator Slossberg, Representative Fleishmann, and distinguished members of the Education Committee:

My name is Kaley Lentini, and I am legislative counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut (ACLU-CT). I am submitting this testimony in support of House Bill 5444, An Act Concerning Revisions to the Student Data Privacy Act.

The ACLU-CT strongly supports liberty and justice for all. This includes the right to privacy in one's personal information. In today's world, schools often contract with third-party companies and organizations for learning tools, testing services, administrative software, and more, each of which could collect or store students' sensitive personal information. Unfortunately, outside companies and the government do not always keep this student information as safe as possible. Connecticut should protect sensitive student data in any way that it can, and parents should have the chance to be informed about how their children's data is being shared with others. Parents should know which entities their children's schools contract with regarding data, what data will be shared, and with whom that data will be shared. This bill would increase transparency by requiring all boards of education in Connecticut to publish information on a website about the contracts they enter into, and mandating all boards of education to notify students and parents of the website's address.

I urge this committee to support this bill to keep parents informed.