

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	4 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Baertschiger, Monnes Anderson, Prozanski, Shields
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	George
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Channa Newell, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	2/13, 4/10, 4/12

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Prohibits public and private educational institutions from requiring, requesting, or compelling student or prospective student to disclose or provide access to personal social media account. Prohibits action or threat of action for student's refusal to disclose information, including discipline, prohibitions on extracurricular activities, and refusing to admit student. Specifies educational institution may conduct investigation into compliance with laws, regulatory requirements, and student misconduct, and may require specific content of social media account; however, institution may not require username and password. Allows educational institution to revoke student access to institution's equipment and/or computer networks. Exempts institutions that collect information through application of policies governing computer use and through social media accounts solely for educational purposes, with notice to students. Defines "educational institution" and "social media." Requires grievance be filed with educational institution prior to civil suit. Specifies civil action for equitable relief and damages within one year of filing grievance.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Privacy protection for higher education students
- Information needs of educational institutions
- No provisions addressing student athletes and coaches in amendment

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** Replaces the original measure.

**BACKGROUND:** Several news outlets report that some colleges request students and prospective students supply the colleges with the individuals' usernames and passwords to social media sites, or require student athletes to maintain links to coaches or other college staff through social media sites as a condition of participation.

Senate Bill 344-A prohibits educational institutions, including public and private community colleges and universities, from requiring students and prospective students to share social media access with the institution. This prohibition does not extend to K-12 schools. The prohibition does not apply to accounts maintained solely for educational purposes if the students receive notice that the accounts may be monitored at all times. The measure also allows institutions to request specific content of an individual's social media account in the course of an investigation for purposes of compliance with applicable law or regulation, or investigations into student misconduct.