

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

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

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**Action:** Do Pass

**Vote:** 10 - 0 - 0

**Yeas:** Barton, Fagan, Holvey, Kennemer, Matthews, Thatcher, Thompson, Weidner, Witt, Doherty

**Nays:** 0

**Exc.:** 0

**Prepared By:** Jan Nordlund, Administrator

**Meeting Dates:** 5/22

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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 access information through application of policies governing computer use but information may not be used without consent. Exempt social media accounts used solely for educational purposes at institution or accounts created by institution, with notice to students. Authorizes civil action for equitable relief and/or damages.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Issue of requiring student to “friend” institution will be discussed during legislative interim
- House Bill 2654, relating to an employer compelling access to social media

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**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 from requiring students and prospective students to share social media access with the institution. The measure does not apply to K-12 schools. The measure also does not prohibit an educational institution from requiring a student or prospective student to add the institution to the student’s list of contacts, a practice known as “friending.”