

S. 3472 (112th): Uninterrupted Scholars Act (USA)

Introduced: Aug 01, 2012 (112th Congress, 2011–2013)

Sponsor: **Sen. Mary Landrieu [D-LA]**

Status: At President

The bill's title was written by the bill's sponsor. S. stands for Senate bill.

Introduced	Aug 01, 2012
Referred to Committee	Aug 01, 2012
Passed Senate	Dec 17, 2012
Passed House	Jan 01, 2013
Signed by President	Jan 03, 2013

The legislation is designed to eliminate inadvertent obstacles to information-sharing between education and child welfare agencies. The legislation allows education agencies to release education records to child welfare case workers or other representatives of a state or local child welfare agency or tribal organization. It also eliminates the requirement that the education agency provide duplicative notice regarding the release of education records to parents already receiving notice from the court.

- Jessica Feierman, Supervising Attorney, Juvenile Law Center, 1315 Walnut St, Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19107, (215) 625-0551, ext 116, jfeierman@JLC.ORG
- Kathleen McNaught, Assistant Director, ABA Center on Children and the Law, Legal Center on Foster Care and Education, American Bar Association, 740 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, 202/662-1966, kathleen.mcnaught@americanbar.org

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS SUMMARY

The summary below was written by the Congressional Research Service, which is a nonpartisan division of the Library of Congress.

Uninterrupted Scholars Act –

Amends provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 that prohibit the Department of Education from funding educational agencies or institutions that release student educational records (or personally identifiable information other than certain directory information) to any individual, agency, or organization without written parental consent.

Expands the list of organizations exempt from such prohibitions (thereby permitting the educational agencies or institutions participating in a Department of Education program to release records or identifiable information to such organizations without parental consent) to include:

- (1) organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, child welfare agencies to improve educational outcomes for students in foster care; and
- (2) state or local welfare agencies or tribal organizations responsible for a student's placement and care, provided that any disclosure of records for a student's educational needs is consistent with confidentiality laws in the state applicable to personal records.

Permits the release of such records and information without additional notice to parents and students when a parent is a party to a child welfare court proceeding and a court order has already been issued in the context of that proceeding.