



NDSA-05-2223

A Resolution in Support of Student Consent in Releasing Directory Information

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA) represents the voice of North Dakota's 45,000 public college and university students; and,

WHEREAS, the purpose of NDSA is to represent all students enrolled in the North Dakota University System (NDUS) and advocate on issues of higher education in support of access, affordability, quality, and the student experience; and,

WHEREAS, the SBHE, NDUS, and the NDUS institutions are in the practice of collecting and storing students' information and thereby using the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of students; and,

WHEREAS, many NDUS programs require student PII to function for the students benefits and are required to release student "directory information" to vendors or service providers that request it; and,

WHEREAS, some of this information includes names of previous institutions attended, dates of attendance, directory photos and video recordings of students in public classroom settings, participation in officially recognized activities or sport, and more; and,

WHEREAS, many inquiries for "directory information" are from a variety of sources including prospective employers, other institutions, graduate schools, governmental and licensing agencies, news media, family, friends, and others; and,

WHEREAS, if students' data information were to be requested, it is up to the discretion of the registrar to release student directory information while the campus has no responsibility to contact students for permission to release directory information; so,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NDSA is requesting the NDUS and the North Dakota State Legislature to exclude student data / directory information from the open records law; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the NDSA supports the rights of the students to understand when and how their PII is being used.

*Approved by the North Dakota Student Association General Assembly
Saturday, November 5th, 2022*