

## EDUCATIONAL RECORDS PRIVACY "The Buckley Amendment"

The federal government goes about arranging for regulations on a local level in strange ways. The idea that the federal government could regulate the way that local school districts keep records would probably raise shock in the founding fathers. The so called "Buckley Amendment" provides rights to parents and students regarding educational records through funding-- in order to receive even one penny of federal funds, all schools must comply with the regulations in the "Buckley amendment."

The Buckley Amendment requires that parents and students who are over the age of 18 years, or attending post-high school courses have the following rights:

- a) Records must be kept private, and the School may only release directory information (name, address etc.), and that Students and parents must be notified of a right to withhold even directory information and, records are only to be released under court order or by written request of the student or parent;
- b) Access must be provided to the parent or student of records, no later than 45 days after request;
- c) The parent or student must have the right to challenge any inaccurate information and cause its removal, and to place statements in the file if a parent or student disagrees with the information;
- d) All of the rights that are provided by the Buckley Amendment must be explained to the students or parents;
- e) The Secretary of Education must enforce the rights of the Buckley Amendment. □