



KEN PAXTON
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

January 6, 2017

Mr. W. Montgomery Meitler
Senior Counsel
Texas Education Agency
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

OR2017-00477

Dear Mr. Meitler:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Public Information Act (the "Act"), chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 641222 (TEA PIR No. 28269).

The Texas Education Agency (the "agency") received a request for all records of three named individuals. You state you have released some information. You state the agency will withhold social security numbers pursuant to section 552.147(b) of the Government Code and the dates of birth of public citizens pursuant to Open Records Letter No. 2016-04398 (2016).¹ You claim some of the submitted information is excepted from disclosure under section 552.101 of the Government Code. We have considered the exception you claim and reviewed the submitted information.

Section 552.101 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure "information considered to be confidential by law, either constitutional, statutory, or by judicial decision." Gov't Code § 552.101. Section 552.101 encompasses section 21.048 of the Education Code, which addresses teacher certification examinations. Section 21.048(c-1) provides the following:

¹Section 552.147(b) of the Government Code authorizes a governmental body to redact a living person's social security number without the necessity of requesting a decision from this office. *See* Gov't Code § 552.147(b). Open Records Decision No. 2016-04398 allows the agency to withhold the dates of birth of public citizens under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with common-law privacy without seeking a ruling from this office.

The results of an examination administered under this section are confidential and are not subject to disclosure under [the Act], unless the disclosure is regarding notification to a parent of the assignment of an uncertified teacher to a classroom as required by section 21.057.

Educ. Code § 21.048(c-1). Upon review, we find the information you have marked consists of or reveals teacher certification examination results. You state the information at issue does not constitute notification to a parent of the assignment of an uncertified teacher to a classroom. Therefore, the agency must withhold the information you have marked under section 552.101 of the Government Code in conjunction with section 21.048(c-1) of the Education Code. The remaining information must be released.

This letter ruling is limited to the particular information at issue in this request and limited to the facts as presented to us; therefore, this ruling must not be relied upon as a previous determination regarding any other information or any other circumstances.

This ruling triggers important deadlines regarding the rights and responsibilities of the governmental body and of the requestor. For more information concerning those rights and responsibilities, please visit our website at http://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/open/orl_ruling_info.shtml, or call the Office of the Attorney General's Open Government Hotline, toll free, at (877) 673-6839. Questions concerning the allowable charges for providing public information under the Act may be directed to the Office of the Attorney General, toll free, at (888) 672-6787.

Sincerely,



Britni Ramirez
Assistant Attorney General
Open Records Division

BR/sb

Ref: ID# 641222

Enc. Submitted documents

c: Requestor
(w/o enclosures)