

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2016



SEN. RACHEL ZENZINGER

Senate District 19 (Arvada and Westminster)

303.866.4840 | SenatorRachelZ@gmail.com | RachelForColorado.com | facebook.com/RachelZenzingerInOffice | @Zenzinger_AtoZ

BILL TO PROTECT STUDENT DATA PRIVACY VOTED DOWN BY GOP

Denver, CO -- A bill to protect students' privacy regarding sensitive information like citizenship and religion failed on party lines in the Senate Education Committee this afternoon.

Sponsored by State Senator Rachel Zenzinger, D-Arvada, SB17-102 would have prohibited private entities like standardized testing companies from asking students questions about identifying information that identifies the citizenship status or religion of a student, or of the student's parents or family. The bill would have also prohibited those companies from collecting, selling, using, or sharing that information.

"Protecting the privacy of Colorado students regarding sensitive matters is not a partisan matter, but I am disappointed this bill did not advance today. Private companies have no business asking minors questions about their faith or their citizenship, and then likely selling that information for personal gain," said Senator Zenzinger.

"This bill was about ensuring parents and students alone have the right to decide to whether they want to keep that information private, or disclose it. Again, I am just disappointed this bill to protect Colorado families' right to privacy for their children will not be heard by the full Senate."

[A story about the value of this bill aired last night on CBS4.](#)

###

ABOUT SEN. ZENZINGER:

Sen. Rachel Zenzinger serves Colorado Senate District 19, which spans most of Arvada and the Jefferson County portion of Westminster. She won election to the seat in November 2016, and she serves on the Senate Education and Transportation committees. She previously served in the Senate in 2014. Her professional background is in education, and she was most recently state manager for the America Achieves Colorado Educator Voice Fellowship. For more information about Sen. Zenzinger, please go to www.RachelForColorado.com or call her at 303-866-4840.