

SSN Relevant Laws

Federal Privacy Act of 1974

A government agency cannot deny to any individual any right, benefit, or privilege provided by law because the individual refuses to disclose his SSN, unless Federal law requires its disclosure.

(Section 7 of Pub. L. 93-579 in Historical Note, 5 U.S.C. § 552a)

Federal Privacy Act of 1974

A government agency must provide a disclosure notice each time the agency requests an individual's social security number. The notice must state (1) whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, (2) by what authority the SSN is required, and (3) what use will be made of the SSN.

(Section 7 of Pub. L. 93-579 in Historical Note, 5 U.S.C. § 552a)

Social Security Act

Anyone who discloses uses or compels disclosure of an SSN in violation of the laws of the United States is guilty of a felony punishable by a fine or imprisonment up to five years or both.

(42 U.S.C. § 408(a) (8))

Social Security Act

An SSN obtained or maintained by a governmental entity pursuant to any provision of law enacted on or after October 1, 1990, is confidential and may not be disclosed.

(42 U.S.C. § 405(c)(2)(C)(viii)(I))

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Disclosure of a student's confidential information, including the SSN, without written consent, is prohibited, unless the disclosure falls within a specified exception.

(20 U.S.C. § 1232g)

Texas Government Code

Each time a State agency collects personal information by means of a paper or electronic form, the agency must notify the individual that he or she is entitled to (1) request to be informed about information collected about the individual, (2) receive and review the information, and (3) have the agency correct incorrect information.

(Texas Gov't Code § 559.003)

Texas Public Information Act

Each State employee must choose not later than the 14th day after employment begins whether to allow public access to personal information, including the individual's SSN.

(Texas Gov't Code § 552.024)

Texas Business & Commerce Code

Effective March 1, 2005, the display of an individual's SSN on a card or other device required to access a product or service is prohibited.

(Texas Business & Commerce Code § 35.58)