Ohio S.B. 29 Impact on Securly Products

Ohio's S.B. 29 addresses concerns regarding the misuse of student data and undisclosed surveillance on school-issued devices. The law mandates transparency in data collection, prohibits the use of data for non-educational purposes, and includes requirements for data deletion and breach notifications. It also prohibits schools from monitoring or accessing students' online activities, except for certain specified purposes

The exceptions in Ohio S.B. 29 are:

- Non-commercial educational purposes for instruction, technical support, or exam proctoring
- Permitted under a judicial warrant
- Location of lost or stolen devices
- Prevention of or response to a threat to life or safety, where the access is limited to that purpose
- Necessary to comply with federal or state law; or Necessary to participate in federal or state funding programs.

Securly has consulted with our legal counsel to assess how Ohio's new regulations impact our products. The table below outlines the applicability of Ohio S.B. 29 to each Securly product, including details on the specific exemptions that apply and any actions schools must take to ensure compliance.

Securly Products Which Fall Under Ohio S.B 29					
Product	Falls Under S.B 29	Allowed Under Exception	Exception	Additional Details	Notification Requirements
Securly Filter	Yes	Yes	Necessary to comply with federal or state law; or Necessary to participate in federal or state funding programsSolutions	All Ohio districts must implement Enhanced Privacy Mode, which allows monitoring with pseudonymous identifiers and hides the Filter activity feed.	All Ohio districts are required to notify parents annually that the district is using Securly Filter under the exemption to comply with federal or state law. If a student activity is unmasked in Filter Enhanced Privacy Mode then the district is responsible for notifying the parents.
AI Chat	Yes	Yes	Noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring	All Ohio districts must implement Enhanced Privacy Mode, which allows monitoring with pseudonymous identifiers and hides the AI Chat student history.	All Ohio districts are required to notify parents annually that the district is using Securly AI Chat under the exemption for noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring.
Securly Aware (includes Respond and On-Call)	Yes	Yes	Necessary to prevent or respond to a threat to life or safety	All Ohio districts must implement Enhanced Privacy Mode, which allows monitoring with pseudonymous identifiers and hides the Aware activity feed.	All Ohio districts are required to notify parents annually that the district is using Securly Aware under the exemption to prevent or respond to a threat to life or safety. If a student activity is unmasked in Aware Enhanced Privacy Mode then the district is responsible for notifying the parents.

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Securly Products Which Fall Under Ohio S.B 29

Product	Falls Under S.B 29	Allowed Under Exception	Exception	Additional Details	Notification Requirements
Securly Classroom	Yes	Yes	Noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring	There are no additional details required.	All Ohio districts are required to notify parents annually that the district is using Securly Classroom under the exemption for noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring.
Securly Reveal	Yes	Yes	Noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring	There are no additional details required.	All Ohio districts are required to notify parents annually that the district is using Securly Classroom under the exemption for noncommercial educational purpose for instruction, technical support, or exam-proctoring.

Securly Products Which DO NOT Fall Under Ohio S.B 29

Product	Falls Under S.B 29	
Securly Observe	No	Observe is used by teachers and staff to record their own observations. It is not used to monitor student online activities or access information about those activities.
Securly Pass	No	Pass is used to issue and manage hall passes; and it is not monitoring or accessing information about a student's online activities.
Securly Flex	No	Flex is used to manage student flex scheduling and it is not monitoring or accessing information about student online activities.
Securly MDM	No	MDM enables schools to manage the app approval process, website access, and to make content available or unavailable to students. It does not collect information about how students interact with approved apps on school-issued devices.
Securly Rhithm	No	Rhithm involves students actively answering short questions, rather than monitoring their behaviors.