

By the Committees on Judiciary; and Education Pre-K - 12; and  
Senator Simon

590-02600-25

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to student participation in  
3       interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular  
4       sports; amending s. 1006.15, F.S.; providing that an  
5       activity or a sport must meet specified requirements;  
6       specifying conditions for a home education student to  
7       participate in interscholastic athletics; revising the  
8       criteria a private school student must meet to  
9       participate in a sport at a Florida High School  
10      Athletic Association (FHSAA) member school; deleting a  
11      provision limiting which non-FHSAA member private  
12      school students are eligible to participate in FHSAA  
13      sports; providing an effective date.

14  
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16  
17       Section 1. Subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (3),  
18      and paragraphs (a), (e), and (g) of subsection (8) of section  
19      1006.15, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

20       1006.15 Student standards for participation in  
21      interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student  
22      activities; regulation.—

23       (2) Interscholastic extracurricular student activities are  
24      an important complement to the academic curriculum.  
25      Participation in a comprehensive extracurricular and academic  
26      program contributes to student development of the social and  
27      intellectual skills necessary to become a well-rounded adult. As  
28      used in this section, the term "extracurricular" means any  
29      school-authorized or education-related activity occurring during

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30 or outside the regular instructional school day. In the  
31 determination of whether a school offers an activity or a sport,  
32 the activity or sport must meet the designation requirements of  
33 s. 1006.205(3)(a).

34 (3)

35 (c)1. An individual home education student is eligible to  
36 participate at the public school to which the student would be  
37 assigned according to district school board attendance area  
38 policies or which the student could choose to attend pursuant to  
39 s. 1002.31, or may develop an agreement to participate at a  
40 private school, in the interscholastic extracurricular  
41 activities of that school, provided the following conditions are  
42 met:

43 a.1. The home education student must meet the requirements  
44 of the home education program pursuant to s. 1002.41.

45 b.2. During the period of participation at a school, the  
46 home education student must demonstrate educational progress as  
47 required in paragraph (b) in all subjects taken in the home  
48 education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the  
49 parent and the school principal which may include: review of the  
50 student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the parent;  
51 grades earned through correspondence; grades earned in courses  
52 taken at a Florida College System institution, university, or  
53 trade school; standardized test scores above the 35th  
54 percentile; or any other method designated in s. 1002.41.

55 c.3. The home education student must meet the same  
56 residency requirements as other students in the school at which  
57 he or she participates.

58 d.4. The home education student must meet the same

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standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required of other students in extracurricular activities.

~~e.5.~~ The student must register with the school his or her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities as a representative of the school before participation. A home education student must be able to participate in curricular activities if that is a requirement for an extracurricular activity.

~~f.6.~~ A student who transfers from a home education program to a public school before or during the first grading period of the school year is academically eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities during the first grading period provided the student has a successful evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant to sub-subparagraph b. ~~subparagraph 2.~~

~~g.7.~~ Any public school or private school student who has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is ineligible to participate in such activities as a home education student until the student has successfully completed one grading period in home education pursuant to sub-subparagraph b. ~~subparagraph 2.~~ to become eligible to participate as a home education student.

2. An individual home education student is eligible to participate on an interscholastic athletic team at any public school in the school district in which the student resides, provided the student meets the conditions specified in sub-subparagraphs a. through g.

(8) (a) The Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) shall, in cooperation with each district school board and its

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88 member private schools, facilitate a program in which a middle  
89 school or high school student who attends a private school is  
90 eligible to participate in an interscholastic or intrascholastic  
91 sport at a member public high school, a member public middle  
92 school, a member 6-12 public school, or a member private school,  
93 as appropriate for the private school student's grade level, if:

94 1. The private school in which the student is enrolled is  
95 not a member of the FHSAA or the private school in which the  
96 student is enrolled is a member of the FHSAA and does not offer  
97 the sport in which the student wishes to participate.

98 2. The private school student meets the guidelines for the  
99 conduct of the program established by the FHSAA's board of  
100 directors and the district school board or member private  
101 school. At a minimum, such guidelines must provide a deadline  
102 for each sport by which the private school student's parents  
103 must register with the member school in writing their intent for  
104 their child to participate at that school in the sport.

105 (e) Any ~~non-FHSAA member~~ private school that has a student  
106 who wishes to participate in this program must make all student  
107 records, including, but not limited to, academic, financial,  
108 disciplinary, and attendance records, available upon request of  
109 the FHSAA.

110 ~~(g) Only students who are enrolled in non-FHSAA member~~  
111 ~~private schools consisting of 200 students or fewer are eligible~~  
112 ~~to participate in the program in any given academic year.~~

113 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.