

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT (803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

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Bill Number: S. 0615 Introduced on February 25, 2021

Author: Young

Subject: Interscholastic Activities

Requestor: Senate Education

RFA Analyst(s): Wren

Impact Date: March 3, 2021

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill allows students who attend private schools to participate in high school sports at a public high school under certain conditions. Further, the bill forbids a school district from contracting with a private entity that supervises high school league sports if the private entity prohibits the participation of private school students in high school league sports supervised by the entity.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the State Department of Education (SDE) since it does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

This bill is not expected to have an expenditure impact on local school districts. SDE anticipates that this bill may allow a small number of eligible private school students to participate in high school sports within public school districts. Further, SDE expects any increase in expenses can be managed within the existing budgets of the districts.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on February 25, 2021 State Expenditure

This bill allows students who attend private schools to participate in high school sports at a public high school if:

- the student resides within the attendance zone boundaries of the high school;
- the private school attended by the student does not offer the particular high school league sport for the student's gender;
- the particular high school league sport in which the student seeks to participate is offered at the local public high school located in the attendance zone where the student resides:
- the student notifies the superintendent of the public school district of his intent to participate in the sport as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the sport; and
- the student meets all public school district eligibility requirements with certain exceptions.

Further, the bill forbids a school district from contracting with a private entity that supervises high school league sports if the private entity prohibits the participation of private school students in high school league sports supervised by the entity.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on SDE since it does not alter the duties or responsibilities of the agency.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill allows students who attend private schools to participate in high school sports at a public high school if:

- the student resides within the attendance zone boundaries of the high school;
- the private school attended by the student does not offer the particular high school league sport for the student's gender;
- the particular high school league sport in which the student seeks to participate is offered at the local public high school located in the attendance zone where the student resides;
- the student notifies the superintendent of the public school district of his intent to participate in the sport as a representative of the school before the beginning date of the season for the sport; and
- the student meets all public school district eligibility requirements with certain exceptions.

Further, the bill forbids a school district from contracting with a private entity that supervises high school league sports if the private entity prohibits the participation of private school students in high school league sports supervised by the entity.

SDE indicates that the provisions of this bill will allow some eligible private school students to participate in high school sports within public school districts. Although data are not available to quantify the number of eligible private school students that will participate in high school sports in public school districts, SDE anticipates that the number will be a small percentage of the private school student population since most private schools currently offer a large number of athletic teams. Therefore, SDE expects any expenses associated with a potential increase in the number of private school students participating in high school sports within public school districts to be minimal and to be managed within the existing budgets of the local districts.

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director