

By Senator Gutman

34-1107-99

See HB 273

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to education; amending s.
3 232.61, F.S.; requiring the Florida High School
4 Activities Association to adopt specified
5 bylaws relating to eligibility for
6 participation in athletic competition for
7 students who transfer or relocate to another
8 school; providing an effective date.

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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12 Section 1. Section 232.61, Florida Statutes, is
13 amended to read:

14 232.61 Governing organization for athletics; adoption
15 of bylaws.--The organization shall adopt bylaws that, unless
16 specifically provided by statute, establish eligibility
17 requirements for all students who participate in high school
18 athletic competition in its member schools. The bylaws
19 governing residence and transfer shall allow the student to be
20 eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each
21 school year, or makes himself or herself a candidate for an
22 athletic team by engaging in a practice prior to enrolling in
23 any member school. The student shall be eligible in that
24 school so long as he or she remains enrolled in that school.
25 Subsequent eligibility shall be determined and enforced
26 through the organization's bylaws. The bylaws governing
27 residence and transfer shall also provide that a student who
28 transfers or relocates to another school is ineligible for
29 participation in athletic competition for a period of 1 year
30 from the date upon which the student's transfer commenced.

31 Where the student lives, with whom the student lives, or which

1 school the student attended the previous year shall not be a
2 factor in determining eligibility. The organization shall also
3 adopt bylaws that specifically prohibit the recruiting of
4 students for athletic purposes. The bylaws shall prescribe
5 penalties and an appeals process for athletic recruiting
6 violations.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
8 law.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Requires the Florida High School Activities Association,
as the governing organization charged with establishing
the rules by which high school athletic programs in its
member schools, and the students who participate in them,
are governed, to adopt bylaws which provide that a
student who transfers or relocates to another school is
ineligible for participation in athletic competition for
a period of 1 year from the date of transfer.