

By Representative Boyd

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to education; amending s.
 3 232.425, F.S., relating to student standards
 4 for participation in interscholastic
 5 extracurricular student activities; providing
 6 that the participation of nonpublic school
 7 students in interscholastic extracurricular
 8 activities at public schools and the
 9 participation of public school students in
 10 interscholastic extracurricular activities at
 11 nonpublic schools is not mandatory; revising
 12 provisions relating to the grade point average
 13 required for participation in interscholastic
 14 extracurricular student activities; requiring a
 15 contract to be executed upon a student's
 16 falling below a certain cumulative grade point
 17 average; amending s. 232.61, F.S., relating to
 18 bylaws relating to student eligibility adopted
 19 by the governing organization for athletics;
 20 providing an effective date.

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

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 24 Section 1. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 232.425,
 25 Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, are amended to read:

26 232.425 Student standards for participation in
 27 interscholastic extracurricular student activities;
 28 regulation.--

29 (2) The Legislature recognizes the importance of
 30 interscholastic extracurricular student activities as a
 31 complement to the academic curriculum. Participation in a

1 comprehensive extracurricular and academic program contributes
2 to student development of the social and intellectual skills
3 necessary to become a well-rounded adult. It is the intent of
4 the Legislature to provide the mechanism for all students in
5 Florida to participate in interscholastic extracurricular
6 activities. However, nothing in this act shall be interpreted
7 as mandating schools to authorize the participation of
8 nonpublic school students in interscholastic extracurricular
9 activities at public schools or the participation of public
10 school students in interscholastic extracurricular activities
11 at nonpublic schools.As used in this section, the term
12 "extracurricular" means any school-authorized or
13 education-related activity occurring during or outside the
14 regular instructional school day.

15 (3)(a) To be eligible to participate in
16 interscholastic extracurricular student activities, a student
17 ~~entering the 9th grade during the 1997-1998 school year and~~
18 ~~thereafter~~ must:

19 1. Maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or above on a
20 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the previous semester
21 ~~cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale,~~
22 ~~or its equivalent, in the courses required by s. 232.246(1).~~

23 2. Execute and fulfill the requirements of a contract
24 between the student, the school district, the governing
25 organization for athletics, and the student's parents or
26 guardian, if the student's cumulative grade point average
27 falls below 2.0, or its equivalent, on a 4.0 scale in the
28 courses required by s. 232.246(1) or, for ~~in order to be~~
29 ~~eligible under this section,~~students who entered the 9th
30 grade prior to the 1997-1998 school year, if the student's
31 ~~must maintain a~~ cumulative grade point average falls below of

1 2.0 ~~or above~~ on a 4.0 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses
2 required by s. 232.246(1) that are taken after July 1, 1997,
3 ~~or have an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or~~
4 ~~above.~~

5 3. To be eligible to participate in interscholastic
6 extracurricular activities during his or her senior year, have
7 a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0
8 scale, or its equivalent, in the courses required by s.
9 232.246(1).~~Eligibility for the first semester of the~~
10 ~~1997-1998 school year for those students who entered the 9th~~
11 ~~grade prior to the 1997-1998 school year shall be based on the~~
12 ~~school board's policy in effect for the 1996-1997 school year.~~

13 4. Additionally, a student must Maintain satisfactory
14 conduct and, if a student is convicted of, or is found to have
15 committed, a felony or a delinquent act which would have been
16 a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether
17 adjudication is withheld, the student's participation in
18 interscholastic extracurricular activities is contingent upon
19 established and published school board policy.

20 (b) Any student who is exempt from attending a full
21 school day under s. 228.041(13) must maintain the grade point
22 average required by this section and pass each class for which
23 he or she is enrolled.

24 (c) An individual home education student is eligible
25 to participate at the a public school to which the student
26 would be assigned according to district school attendance area
27 policies or which the student could choose to attend pursuant
28 to district or interdistrict controlled open enrollment
29 provisions. An individual home education student,~~and~~ may
30 develop an agreement to participate at a nonpublic school, in
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1 the interscholastic extracurricular activities of that school,
2 provided the following conditions are met:

3 1. The home education student must meet the
4 requirements of the home education program pursuant to s.
5 232.0201.

6 2. During the period of participation at a school, the
7 home education student must demonstrate educational progress
8 as required in paragraph (b) in all subjects taken in the home
9 education program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the
10 parent or guardian and the principal which may include: review
11 of the student's work by a certified teacher chosen by the
12 parent; grades earned through correspondence; grades earned in
13 courses taken at a community college, university, or trade
14 school; standardized test scores above the 35th percentile; or
15 any other method designated in s. 232.0201.

16 3. The home education student must meet the same
17 residency requirements as other students in the school at
18 which he or she participates.

19 4. The home education student must meet the same
20 standards of acceptance, behavior, and performance as required
21 of other students in extracurricular activities.

22 5. The student must register with the school his or
23 her intent to participate in interscholastic extracurricular
24 activities as a representative of the school before the
25 beginning date of the season for the activity in which he or
26 she wishes to participate. A home education student must be
27 able to participate in curricular activities if that is a
28 requirement for an extracurricular activity.

29 6. A student who transfers from a home education
30 program to a public school before or during the first grading
31 period of the school year is academically eligible to

1 participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities
2 during the first grading period provided the student has a
3 successful evaluation from the previous school year, pursuant
4 to subparagraph 2.

5 7. Any public school or nonpublic school student who
6 has been unable to maintain academic eligibility for
7 participation in interscholastic extracurricular activities is
8 ineligible to participate in such activities as a home
9 education student until the student has successfully completed
10 one grading period in home education pursuant to subparagraph
11 2. to become eligible to participate as a home education
12 student.

13 Section 2. Section 232.61, Florida Statutes, is
14 amended to read:

15 232.61 Governing organization for athletics; adoption
16 of bylaws.--The organization shall adopt bylaws that, unless
17 specifically provided by statute, establish eligibility
18 requirements for all students who participate in high school
19 athletic competition in its member schools. The bylaws
20 governing residence and transfer shall allow the student to be
21 eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each
22 school year, or makes himself or herself a candidate for an
23 athletic team by engaging in a practice prior to enrolling in
24 any member school. The student shall be eligible in that
25 school so long as he or she remains enrolled in that school.
26 Subsequent eligibility shall be determined and enforced
27 through the organization's bylaws. ~~Where the student lives,~~
28 ~~with whom the student lives, or which school the student~~
29 ~~attended the previous year shall not be a factor in~~
30 ~~determining eligibility.~~The organization shall also adopt
31 bylaws that specifically prohibit the recruiting of students

1 for athletic purposes. The bylaws shall prescribe penalties
2 and an appeals process for athletic recruiting violations.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
4 law.

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7 HOUSE SUMMARY

8 Provides that participation of nonpublic school students
9 in interscholastic extracurricular activities at public
10 schools and the participation of public school students
11 in interscholastic extracurricular activities at
12 nonpublic schools is not mandatory. Revises provisions
13 relating to the grade point average required for
14 participation in interscholastic extracurricular student
15 activities. Requires the execution of a contract between
16 the student, the district, the governing organization for
17 athletics, and the student's parent or guardian upon a
18 student's falling below a certain cumulative grade point
19 average. Amends provisions relating to bylaws relating to
20 student eligibility adopted by the governing organization
21 for athletics.
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