

HB 797

2011

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to interscholastic and intrascholastic
3 sports; amending s. 1006.15, F.S.; removing certain
4 provisions relating to a pilot program in which a middle
5 school student or a high school student in a private
6 school may participate in athletics at a public school;
7 providing for statewide implementation of the program;
8 requiring that the athletic director of each public school
9 maintain the records of students participating in the
10 program; requiring that any private school that is not a
11 member of the Florida High School Athletic Association
12 make the records of participating students available to
13 the association upon request; requiring that a student
14 apply to participate in the program through the
15 appropriate application process; limiting participation in
16 the program to students who are enrolled in non-FHSAA
17 member private schools consisting of a maximum number of
18 students; providing an effective date.

19
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21
22 Section 1. Subsection (8) of section 1006.15, Florida
23 Statutes, is amended to read:

24 1006.15 Student standards for participation in
25 interscholastic and intrascholastic extracurricular student
26 activities; regulation.—

27 (8) (a) The Florida High School Athletic Association
28 (FHSAA), in cooperation with each ~~the~~ district school board

HB 797

2011

boards of Bradford County, Duval County, and Nassau County,
shall facilitate a 2-year pilot program during the 2008-2009 and
2009-2010 academic years in which a middle school or high school
student who attends a private school shall be eligible to
participate in an interscholastic or intrascholastic sport at a
public high school, a public middle school, or a 6-12 public
school that is zoned for the physical address at which the
student resides if:

1. The private school in which the student is enrolled is
not a member of the FHSAA and does not offer an interscholastic
or intrascholastic athletic program.

2. The private school student meets the guidelines for the
conduct of the ~~pilot~~ program established by the FHSAA's board of
directors and the ~~participating~~ district school board ~~boards~~. At
a minimum, such guidelines shall provide:

a. A deadline for each sport by which the private school
student's parents must register with the public school in
writing their intent for their child to participate at that
school in the sport.

b. Requirements for a private school student to
participate, including, but not limited to, meeting the same
standards of eligibility, acceptance, behavior, educational
progress, and performance which ~~that~~ apply to other students
participating in interscholastic or intrascholastic sports at a
public school or FHSAA member private school.

(b) The parents of a private school student participating
in a public school sport under this subsection are responsible
for transporting their child to and from the public school at

HB 797

2011

57 which the student participates. The private school the student
58 attends, the public school at which the student participates in
59 a sport, the district school board, and the FHSAA are exempt
60 from civil liability arising from any injury that occurs to the
61 student during such transportation.

62 (c) For each academic year, a private school student may
63 only participate at the public school in which the student is
64 first registered under sub-subparagraph (a)2.a. or makes himself
65 or herself a candidate for an athletic team by engaging in a
66 practice.

67 (d) The athletic director of each participating FHSAA
68 member public school shall maintain the student records
69 necessary for eligibility, compliance, and participation in the
70 program.

71 (e) Any non-FHSAA member private school that has a student
72 who wishes to participate in this program must make all student
73 records, including, but not limited to, academic, financial,
74 disciplinary, and attendance records, available upon request of
75 the FHSAA.

76 (f) A student must apply to participate in this program
77 through the FHSAA program application process.

78 (g) Only students who are enrolled in non-FHSAA member
79 private schools consisting of 125 students or fewer are eligible
80 to participate in the program in any given academic year.

81 ~~(d) The FHSAA and participating district school boards~~
82 ~~shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and~~
83 ~~the Speaker of the House of Representatives:~~

84 ~~1. A copy of the guidelines established under subparagraph~~

HB 797

2011

~~(a)2. for the pilot program no later than August 1, 2008.~~

~~2. A report on the progress of the pilot program no later than January 1, 2010. The report shall include the number of students registered under sub-subparagraph (a)2.a., the number of students found eligible to participate in the pilot program, the number of students who transfer to the public schools at which the students participated under the pilot program, implementation issues experienced with the pilot program, and recommendations on how the pilot program may be improved and expanded to include other counties.~~

~~(c) This subsection shall stand repealed on June 30, 2010, unless reviewed and reenacted by the Legislature.~~

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