

By Senator Wise

5-00140B-11

20111000\_\_

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  
5       middle school student or a high school student in a  
6       private school may participate in athletics at a  
7       public school; providing for statewide implementation  
8       of the program; requiring that the athletic director  
9       of each public school maintain the records of students  
10      participating in the program; requiring that any  
11      private school that is not a member of the Florida  
12      High School Athletic Association make the records of  
13      participating students available to the association  
14      upon request; requiring that a student apply to  
15      participate in the program through the appropriate  
16      application process; limiting participation in the  
17      program to students who are enrolled in non-FHSAA  
18      member private schools consisting of a maximum number  
19      of students; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

5-00140B-11

20111000\_\_

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  
which the student participates. The private school the student

5-00140B-11

20111000\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

85 ~~1. A copy of the guidelines established under subparagraph~~  
86 ~~(a)2. for the pilot program no later than August 1, 2008.~~

87 ~~2. A report on the progress of the pilot program no later~~

5-00140B-11

20111000\_\_

88 ~~than January 1, 2010. The report shall include the number of~~  
89 ~~students registered under sub-subparagraph (a)2.a., the number~~  
90 ~~of students found eligible to participate in the pilot program,~~  
91 ~~the number of students who transfer to the public schools at~~  
92 ~~which the students participated under the pilot program,~~  
93 ~~implementation issues experienced with the pilot program, and~~  
94 ~~recommendations on how the pilot program may be improved and~~  
95 ~~expanded to include other counties.~~

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

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