

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

As Engrossed: H3/20/15

A Bill

SENATE BILL 894

5 By: Senator Files
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC
9 SPORTS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
10 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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13 TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION IN
14 INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS; AND TO DECLARE AN
15 EMERGENCY.
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY.

22 (a) The Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) shall allow a private
23 school student attending a AAA member private school that does not offer
24 grades ten through twelve (10-12) to participate on an athletic team during
25 the spring semester at a public high school the student will attend during
26 the next school year if:

27 (1) The private school does not offer the athletic program; and

28 (2) The student meets the participation requirements, except for
29 attendance requirements, by the school district in which the student seeks to
30 participate on an athletic team that is in the resident school district in
31 which the student's parent or guardian resides as determined under § 6-18-
32 202.

33 (b) If a student participates on an athletic team during the spring
34 semester at a public high school as allowed under subsection (a) of this
35 section and the student does not attend the public high school in the next
36 school year, the student shall be ineligible to participate in AAA sanctioned



1 athletics for one (1) year unless the student's parent or guardian make a
2 complete and bona fide change of domicile move in accordance with the
3 Arkansas Activities Association guidelines for public and nonpublic change of
4 domicile.

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6 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
7 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that athletics play a crucial role
8 in the school experience for many students; that opportunities for athletic
9 participation can be limited to students depending on the school the student
10 attends; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure that the AAA
11 can prepare rules and schedules for the 2015-2016 school year. Therefore, an
12 emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for
13 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become
14 effective on:

15 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

16 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
17 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
18 bill; or

19 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
20 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

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22 /s/Files
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