

SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT (803)734-3780 • RFA.SC.GOV/IMPACTS

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Bill Number:	S. 1173 Introduced on March 19, 2024
Author:	Hembree
Subject:	Interscholastic Sports
Requestor:	Senate Education
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren
Impact Date:	April 5, 2024

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill prohibits a public school district that is supported by State funds from financially supporting any interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity unless the constitution, rules, or policies of the association, body, or entity contain certain criteria. The bill also establishes an appeal process with a nine-member panel and specifies that the State Board of Education and the S.C. Department of Education's (SCDE) determinations of eligibility are binding on an interscholastic athletic association.

The expenditure impact of this bill on SCDE is pending, contingent upon a response.

SCDE surveyed the local districts and received responses from nine districts. Six of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have minimal to no impact since the districts can either manage any expenses within existing budgets or the districts will not participate in these organizations. The three remaining districts indicate that if they join a different athletic association, the bill could have an impact for organization dues, administrative fees, catastrophic insurance, training for coaches and game officials, hosting state championship events, and travel expenses due to region alignment. However, the expenses could not be quantified at this time.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on March 19, 2024 State Expenditure

This bill prohibits a public school district that is supported by State funds from financially supporting any interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity unless the constitution, rules, or policies of the association, body, or entity contain specified criteria. The criteria include a range of sanctions for violations, a guarantee that private and charter schools are afforded the same privileges as other members, a guarantee that a home school athletic association may not be denied access to certain interscholastic athletics, a prohibition of the use of name, image, or likeness compensation, and an establishment of a transfer process. The bill also establishes an appeal process with a nine-member panel consisting of the following members:

• Two non-legislative members appointed by the Chairman of the House Education and Public Works Committee;

- Two non-legislative members appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Education Committee; and
- Five members appointed by the Governor.

Further, the bill specifies that the State Board of Education and SCDE's determinations of eligibility under the provisions of Section 59-39-160 are binding on any interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity of which a public school district supported by state funds is a member or affiliate.

The expenditure impact of this bill on SCDE is pending, contingent upon a response.

State Revenue

N/A

Local Expenditure

This bill prohibits a public school district that is supported by State funds from financially supporting any interscholastic athletic association, body, or entity unless the constitution, rules, or policies of the association, body, or entity contain certain criteria.

SCDE surveyed the local school districts regarding the expenditure impact of this bill and received responses from nine districts. Six of the responding districts indicate that the bill will have minimal to no impact as any expenses can either be managed within existing budgets or the districts will not participate in these organizations. The three remaining districts indicate that if they join a different athletic association, the bill could have an impact for organization dues, administrative fees, catastrophic insurance, training for coaches and game officials, hosting state championship events, and travel expenses due to region alignment. However, the expenses could not be quantified at this time. Therefore, the expenditure impact of this bill on local school districts will depend on district decisions.

Local Revenue

N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director