**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 59‑63‑105 SO AS TO PROHIBIT THE RECRUITMENT OF STUDENT ATHLETES BY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, INCLUDING CHARTER SCHOOLS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 63, Title 59 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 59‑63‑105. (A) The recruiting or proselytizing of student athletes shall be considered a violation of the spirit and philosophy of the rules and regulations governing high school athletics.

(B) A student, his parent, or his guardian may not be subjected to undue influence or any special inducement by any person or group in an attempt to entice him to transfer for athletic purposes including, but not limited to:

(1) being asked by a member of a school faculty, coaching staff, or school booster organization to transfer from one school to another;

(2) offering or providing financial aid for transportation, room, board, or clothing;

(3) offering or providing employment to the student, his parent, or his guardian;

(4) offering or providing special privileges to parents or guardians of students including, but not limited to, free or reduced rent on a residence;

(5) offering or assisting with securing a college scholarship;

(6) offering or providing any other privileges or considerations to induce or influence the student, his parent, or his guardian to transfer from one school to another because of the athletic ability of the student; or

(7) offering or providing any other consideration not offered or provided to the general student population and their parents or guardians.

(C) A student who transfers because of recruiting or other undue influence as prohibited in this section is ineligible to participate in any athletic events sanctioned by the South Carolina High School League or other similar private entity that supervises interscholastic activities for a period of one year from the date of the determination of the violation. A school that violates the provisions of this section, including violations by its booster organization, must be subject to discipline by the South Carolina High School League or other similar private entity that supervises the interscholastic activities of the school.

(D) The provisions of this section apply to all public schools, including charter schools.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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