

# 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. 0161	Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author:	Turner	
Subject:	Private School Sports Participation	
Requestor:	Senate Education	
RFA Analyst(s):	Wren	
Impact Date:	April 4, 2024	

## **Fiscal Impact Summary**

This bill allows students who attend private schools and meet certain criteria to try out for and, if selected, participate in an interscholastic athletic program offered at a public school under certain circumstances.

This bill will have no expenditure impact on the S.C. Department of Education (SCDE) since the bill does not alter the responsibilities of the agency.

SCDE previously surveyed the local school districts regarding similar legislation and received responses from nineteen districts. The expenditure impact of the legislation on local school districts varies. Of the responding districts, seventeen indicate that the legislation will have no expenditure impact, as any expenses will be minimal and can be managed with existing resources and staff. The remaining two districts indicate that expenses could increase by up to \$71,000 for uniforms, equipment, and insurance for private school student athletes.

## **Explanation of Fiscal Impact**

#### Introduced on January 10, 2023 State Expenditure

This bill allows students who attend private schools to try out for and, if selected, participate in an interscholastic athletic program offered at a public school under the following circumstances:

- The student resides within the attendance zone boundaries of the public school;
- The private school that the student attends is not a member of the South Carolina High School League and the private school's enrollment for grades nine through twelve does not exceed 200 students;
- The private school attended by the student does not offer the particular sport for the student's gender;
- The particular sport in which the student seeks to participate is offered at the public school located in the attendance zone where the student resides;
- The student notifies the superintendent of the public school district in writing of his intent to try out in the particular sport before the beginning date of the season;
- The student pays for all sport-specific fees charged by the public school for an individual student to participate in the particular sport; and

• The student meets all public school district eligibility requirements with certain exceptions.

The bill further states that a public school district may not contract with a private entity that supervises interscholastic athletic programs if the private entity prohibits the participation of private school students in interscholastic athletic programs.

SCDE indicates that this bill will have no expenditure impact on the agency since the bill does not alter the responsibilities of the agency.

### State Revenue

N/A

### Local Expenditure

This bill allows students who attend private schools and who meet certain criteria to try out for and, if selected, participate in an interscholastic athletic program offered at a public school under certain circumstances.

SCDE previously surveyed the local school districts regarding similar legislation and received responses from nineteen districts. The expenditure impact of the legislation on local school districts varies. Of the responding districts, seventeen indicate that the legislation will have no expenditure impact, as any expenses will be minimal and can be managed with existing resources and staff. The remaining two districts indicate that expenses could increase by up to \$71,000 for uniforms, equipment, and insurance for private school student athletes.

Local Revenue N/A

Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director