

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: H3/20/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 894

By: Senator Files

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

TO PROMOTE PARTICIPATION IN
INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTS; AND TO DECLARE AN
EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY.

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

/s/Files

APPROVED: 03/31/2015