

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 644

BY REPRESENTATIVES DICKERSON, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BUTLER, CARVER, CHASSION, CREWS, DEWITT, EGAN, EMERSON, FIRMENT, FISHER, GALLE, GREEN, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, MILLER, SELDERS, STAGNI, TAYLOR, AND WRIGHT

STUDENTS: Authorizes students enrolled in home study programs to participate in public school activities

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:176.2, relative to students enrolled in home study programs; to authorize  
3 students enrolled in home study programs to participate in public school activities  
4 at the public school they would otherwise attend based on their residence; to specify  
5 that such activities include extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics; and  
6 to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:176.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §176.2. Extracurricular activities; interscholastic athletics; participation by home  
10 study students

11 A. Students enrolled in home study programs may try out for and participate  
12 in public school activities at the public school they would otherwise attend based on  
13 their residence, including but not limited to extracurricular activities and  
14 interscholastic athletics.

15 B. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no public school or  
16 nonpublic school that receives any public funds may be a member of, or participate  
17 in any competition sponsored by, any interscholastic extracurricular athletic  
18 association or organization that does not do both of the following:

1           (1) Provide a written notice that identifies the specific rule violated by any  
 2           public school, nonpublic school, or student athlete attending any public school or  
 3           nonpublic school.

4           (2) Provide public schools, nonpublic schools, or student athletes with the  
 5           ability to view or otherwise assess the documents and evidence relied upon by the  
 6           interscholastic extracurricular athletic association or organization to make an  
 7           eligibility ruling or issue a rules infraction.

8           C. The requirements set forth in Paragraphs (B)(1) and (2) of this Section  
 9           shall be applicable to final decisions issued regarding student athlete eligibility or an  
 10          alleged violation of the rules issued by any interscholastic extracurricular athletic  
 11          association or organization.

#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 644 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Dickerson

**Abstract:** Authorizes home study students to participate in public school activities at the public school they would otherwise attend based on their residence and prohibits schools from being members of, or participating in competition sponsored by, certain athletic associations.

Proposed law provides that students enrolled in home study programs may try out for and participate in public school activities at the public school they would otherwise attend based on their residence, including but not limited to extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics.

Proposed law further prohibits each public school or nonpublic school that receives public funds from being a member of, or participating in any competition sponsored by, any interscholastic extracurricular athletic association or organization that does not do both of the following:

- (1) Provide a written notice that identifies the specific rule violated by any public school, nonpublic school, or student athlete.
- (2) Provide public schools, nonpublic schools, and student athletes with the ability to view or otherwise assess the documents and evidence relied upon by such association or organization to make an eligibility ruling or issue a rules infraction.

Provides that the requirements provided in (1) and (2) above shall be applicable to final decisions issued regarding student athlete eligibility or an alleged violation of the rules issued by such association or organization.

(Adds R.S. 17:176.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add that participation authorized by proposed law is limited to the student's resident school district.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Provide that participation authorized by proposed law is limited to the public school the student would otherwise attend based on his residence rather than to his resident school district.
2. Prohibit schools from being members of, or participating in competition sponsored by, certain athletic associations.