

House File 37 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 37
BY CHAMBERS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to participation in varsity interscholastic
2 athletic contests and competitions by high school students
3 participating in open enrollment.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 282.18, subsection 11, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 11. A pupil who participates in open enrollment for purposes
4 of attending a grade in grades nine through twelve in a school
5 district other than the district of residence is ineligible
6 to participate in varsity interscholastic athletic contests
7 and athletic competitions during the pupil's first ~~ninety~~
8 one hundred eighty school days of enrollment in the district
9 except that the pupil may participate immediately in a varsity
10 interscholastic sport if the pupil is entering grade nine for
11 the first time and did not participate in an interscholastic
12 athletic competition for another school or school district
13 during the summer immediately following eighth grade, if the
14 district of residence and the other school district jointly
15 participate in the sport, if the sport in which the pupil
16 wishes to participate is not offered in the district of
17 residence, if the pupil chooses to use open enrollment to
18 attend school in another school district because the district
19 in which the student previously attended school was dissolved
20 and merged with one or more contiguous school districts under
21 section 256.11, subsection 12, if the pupil participates in
22 open enrollment because the pupil's district of residence has
23 entered into a whole grade sharing agreement with another
24 district for the pupil's grade, or if the parent or guardian
25 of the pupil participating in open enrollment is an active
26 member of the armed forces and resides in permanent housing
27 on government property provided by a branch of the armed
28 services. A pupil who has paid tuition and attended school, or
29 has attended school pursuant to a mutual agreement between the
30 two districts, in a district other than the pupil's district
31 of residence for at least one school year is also eligible to
32 participate immediately in interscholastic athletic contests
33 and athletic competitions under this section, but only as a
34 member of a team from the district that pupil had attended.
35 For purposes of this subsection, "*school days of enrollment*"

1 does not include enrollment in summer school. For purposes of
2 this subsection, "varsity" means the same as defined in section
3 256.46.

4

EXPLANATION

5 This bill extends to 180 school days the period of varsity
6 athletic ineligibility applicable to a high school student
7 participating in open enrollment. Currently, a pupil who
8 participates in open enrollment for purposes of attending a
9 grade in grades nine through 12 in a school district other
10 than the district of residence is ineligible to participate
11 in varsity interscholastic athletic contests and athletic
12 competitions during the pupil's first 90 school days of
13 enrollment.