

**House File 2016 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2016  
BY WILLS

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act to allow a student to participate in an interscholastic  
2 athletic activity sponsored or administered by a statewide  
3 organization in an adjoining state.

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

1 Section 1. Section 280.13, Code 2016, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **280.13 Requirements for interscholastic athletic contests and**  
4 **competitions — participation out-of-state.**

5 1. A public school shall not participate in or allow  
6 students representing a public school to participate in any  
7 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
8 which is sponsored or administered by an organization as  
9 defined in this section, unless the organization is registered  
10 with the department of education, files financial statements  
11 with the department in the form and at the intervals prescribed  
12 by the director of the department of education, and is in  
13 compliance with rules which the state board of education adopts  
14 for the proper administration, supervision, operation, adoption  
15 of eligibility requirements, and scheduling of extracurricular  
16 interscholastic athletic contests and competitions and the  
17 organizations.

18 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1, if the organizations  
19 that meet the requirements of subsection 1 do not sponsor  
20 or administer an interscholastic athletic activity in this  
21 state, a student may participate in such an interscholastic  
22 athletic activity sponsored or administered by a comparable  
23 statewide organization operating in an adjoining state if the  
24 school district or accredited nonpublic school in which the  
25 student is enrolled enters into a written agreement with the  
26 board of directors of the school district or the authorities  
27 in charge of an accredited nonpublic school in the adjoining  
28 state to provide for the eligibility of the student in the  
29 interscholastic athletic activity. A boundary of the school  
30 district or accredited nonpublic school in which the student  
31 is enrolled must be contiguous to the boundary of the school  
32 district in the adjoining state that is party to the written  
33 agreement. For purposes of this subsection, the boundaries of  
34 the school district in which an accredited nonpublic school is  
35 located shall be considered the boundaries of the accredited

1 nonpublic school. The written agreement shall be for a period  
2 of not less than one school year and may be renewed annually or  
3 until an organization in this state sponsors or administers the  
4 interscholastic athletic activity in this state. The student  
5 participating in an interscholastic athletic activity under  
6 this subsection must be enrolled and in good standing in a  
7 school district or an accredited nonpublic school in this state  
8 and must meet the eligibility requirements adopted by rule by  
9 the state board of education under section 256.46 which are  
10 not in conflict with this subsection. A copy of the written  
11 agreement shall be filed with the appropriate organizations in  
12 this state and in the adjoining state in a timely manner.

13 3. For the purposes of this section "organization" means  
14 a corporation, association, or organization which has as one  
15 of its primary purposes the sponsoring or administration  
16 of extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
17 competitions, but does not include an agency of this state,  
18 a public or private school or school board, or an athletic  
19 conference or other association whose interscholastic contests  
20 or competitions do not include more than twenty-four schools.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill allows a student to participate in an  
25 interscholastic athletic activity sponsored or administered by  
26 a comparable statewide high school athletic organization in an  
27 adjoining state if the high school athletic organizations in  
28 this state do not sponsor or administer the activity.

29 To participate in an athletic activity in another state,  
30 the school district or accredited nonpublic school in which  
31 the student is enrolled must enter into a written agreement  
32 with the board of directors of the school district or the  
33 authorities in charge of an accredited nonpublic school in  
34 the adjoining state to provide for the eligibility of the  
35 student in the interscholastic athletic activity. The student

1 must be enrolled and in good standing in a school district or  
2 an accredited nonpublic school and meet the state board of  
3 education's eligibility requirements that are not in conflict  
4 with the provisions of the bill.

5 The boundary of the school district or accredited nonpublic  
6 school in which the student is enrolled must be contiguous to  
7 the boundary of the school district in the adjoining state  
8 that is party to the written agreement. The boundaries of the  
9 school district in which an accredited nonpublic school is  
10 located shall be considered the boundaries of the accredited  
11 nonpublic school.

12 The term of the written agreement is one school year and it  
13 may be renewed annually or until an Iowa high school athletic  
14 organization sponsors or administers the activity. A copy  
15 of the written agreement must be filed with the appropriate  
16 high school athletic organizations in this state and in the  
17 adjoining state in a timely manner.