

House File 371 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 371

BY GUSTOFF, STONE, and GEHLBACH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to high school athletic contests and
2 competitions.

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

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1 Section 1. Section 280.13, Code 2025, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **280.13 Requirements for interscholastic athletic contests and**
4 **competitions.**

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 defined
9 in this section, unless the organization is registered with
10 the department of education, files financial statements with
11 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. a. For the purposes of this section "organization" means
19 a corporation, association, or organization to which all of the
20 following apply:

21 (1) It has as one of its primary purposes the sponsoring
22 or administration of extracurricular interscholastic athletic
23 contests or competitions, but.

24 (2) It does not prohibit member schools from participating
25 in extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests and
26 competitions with nonmember schools.

27 b. "Organization" does not include an agency of this state,
28 a public or private school or school board, or an athletic
29 conference or other association whose interscholastic contests or
30 competitions do not include more than twenty-four schools.

31 EXPLANATION

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

34 This bill relates to high school athletic contests or
35 competitions.

1 Current law prohibits public schools from participating
2 in or allowing students representing the public school from
3 participating in any extracurricular interscholastic athletic
4 contest or competition which is sponsored or administered by
5 an organization unless the organization complies with certain
6 specified requirements. Current law defines "organization"
7 as a corporation, association, or organization which has as
8 one of its primary purposes the sponsoring or administration
9 of extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or
10 competitions. The bill modifies the definition of "organization"
11 for purposes of these provisions to require that the organization
12 not prohibit member schools from participating in extracurricular
13 interscholastic athletic contests and competitions with nonmember
14 schools.

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