

**House File 189 - Reprinted**

HOUSE FILE 189  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 1)

(As Amended and Passed by the House March 19, 2025)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the eligibility of students enrolled  
2 in nonpublic schools to compete in extracurricular  
3 interscholastic athletic contests or competitions provided by  
4 public schools, and including effective date provisions.  
5 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) The corporation, association, or organization has as  
22 one of its primary purposes the sponsoring or administration  
23 of extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or  
24 competitions, but.

25 (2) The corporation, association, or organization monitors  
26 student participation in extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
27 contests or competitions pursuant to section 280.13D.

28 (3) The corporation, association, or organization, when  
29 calculating a public school's or nonpublic school's enrollment  
30 to determine the classification of an extracurricular  
31 interscholastic athletic contest or competition provided by the  
32 public school or nonpublic school, counts the enrollment of  
33 another public school or nonpublic school that allows students  
34 to participate in an extracurricular interscholastic athletic  
35 contest or competition that is provided by the public school

1 or nonpublic school pursuant to section 280.13A or 280.13D, as  
2 one-fourth of the enrollment of students in grades nine through  
3 eleven in the other public school or nonpublic school as shown in  
4 the most recent basic education data survey.

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

9 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **280.13D Participation in**  
10 **extracurricular interscholastic athletic contests or competitions**  
11 **provided by public schools.**

12 1. a. The board of directors of a school district shall  
13 allow a student who resides within the school district and  
14 who is enrolled in a nonpublic school to participate in any  
15 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
16 that is provided by the school district, but that has not been  
17 provided by the nonpublic school during the two immediately  
18 preceding school years, pursuant to the terms of an agreement  
19 between the board of directors of the school district and the  
20 authorities in charge of the nonpublic school that provides for  
21 the eligibility of the student.

22 b. The board of directors of a school district shall allow  
23 a student who resides within a contiguous school district and  
24 who is enrolled in a nonpublic school to participate in any  
25 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition  
26 that is provided by the school district, but that has not been  
27 provided by the nonpublic school or by the student's school  
28 district of residence during the two immediately preceding school  
29 years, pursuant to the terms of an agreement between the board  
30 of directors of the school district and the authorities in charge  
31 of the nonpublic school that provides for the eligibility of the  
32 student.

33 c. If the board of directors of a school district has  
34 established a fee for the cost of a student's participation in an  
35 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition,

1 a student who is enrolled in a nonpublic school and is  
2 participating in a contest or competition at a public school  
3 pursuant to paragraph "a" or "b", or the student's parent or  
4 guardian, shall be responsible for the payment of such fee. The  
5 amount of such fee shall not exceed the amount of the fee the  
6 board of directors of the school district has established for  
7 students who are enrolled in the school district.

8 2. A student who is enrolled in a nonpublic school and is  
9 participating in a contest or competition at a public school  
10 pursuant to subsection 1, paragraph "a" or "b", shall participate  
11 under the same conditions as a student who is enrolled in the  
12 school district, including meeting the school district's student  
13 code of conduct requirements.

14 3. A student who participates in an extracurricular  
15 interscholastic athletic contest or competition pursuant to this  
16 section shall be deemed to satisfy the residence requirements for  
17 purposes of section 256.46.

18 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate  
19 importance, takes effect upon enactment.