

AN ACT Relating to equitable competition between students who participate in school athletic activities; amending RCW 28A.600.200; and adding a new section to chapter 28A.600 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**Section 1.** RCW 28A.600.200 and 2012 c 155 s 2 are each amended to read as follows:

Each school district board of directors is hereby granted and shall, subject to the requirements of this section and section 2 of this act, exercise the authority to control, supervise and regulate the conduct of interschool athletic activities and other interschool extracurricular activities of an athletic, cultural, social or recreational nature for students of the district. A board of directors may delegate control, supervision and regulation of any such activity to the Washington interscholastic activities association or any other voluntary nonprofit entity and compensate such entity for services provided, subject to the following conditions:

(1) The voluntary nonprofit entity shall not discriminate in connection with employment or membership upon its governing board, or otherwise in connection with any function it performs, on the basis of race, creed, national origin, sex or marital status((;)).

(2)(a) Any rules and policies adopted and applied by the voluntary nonprofit entity that governs student participation in any interschool activity shall be written; and

(b) Such rules and policies shall provide for notice of the reasons and a fair opportunity to contest such reasons prior to a final determination to reject a student's request to participate in or to continue in an interschool activity.

(3)(a) The association or other voluntary nonprofit entity is authorized to impose penalties for rules violations upon coaches, school district administrators, school administrators, and students, as appropriate, to punish the offending party or parties;

(b) No penalty may be imposed on a student or students unless the student or students knowingly violated the rules or unless a student gained a significant competitive advantage or materially disadvantaged another student through a rule violation;

(c) Any penalty that is imposed for rules violations must be proportional to the offense;

(d) Any decision resulting in a penalty shall be considered a decision of the school district conducting the activity in which the student seeks to participate or was participating and may be appealed pursuant to RCW 28A.600.205 and 28A.645.010 through 28A.645.030.

(4) The school districts, Washington interscholastic activities association districts, and leagues that participate in the interschool extracurricular activities shall not impose more severe penalties for rule violations than can be imposed by the rules of the association or the voluntary nonprofit entity.

(5) As used in this section and RCW 28A.600.205, “knowingly” means having actual knowledge of or acting with deliberate ignorance or reckless disregard for the prohibition involved.

**Section 2. New section.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.600 RCW to read as follows:

(1) Rules and policies adopted in accordance with RCW 28A.600.200 by a school district board of directors or a voluntary nonprofit entity must prohibit male students from competing with and against female students in athletic activities with separate classifications for male and female students if the athletic activity is:

- (a) Intended for female students; and
- (b) An individual or team competition sport.

(2) For the purposes of this section, “male students” means students whose sex assigned at birth was male.

**Section 3. New section.** This act may be known and cited as the Save Our Girls’ Sports Act.

**Section 4. Severability.** If any provision or clause of this Act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without an invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are severable.

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