
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6383

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Senate Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Benton, Eide, Schoesler, Kohl-Welles, Chase, Padden, Stevens, Hobbs, Pflug, Hargrove, Harper, McAuliffe, Prentice, Shin, Fraser, Fain, Hill, Baumgartner, Nelson, Swecker, Holmquist Newbry, Kline, Hatfield, Becker, Conway, Hewitt, King, Parlette, Ranker, Litzow, Zarelli, Ericksen, Morton, and Honeyford)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/12.

1 AN ACT Relating to the Washington interscholastic activities
2 association; amending RCW 28A.600.200 and 28A.600.205; and creating new
3 sections.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that the mission of
6 the Washington interscholastic activities association is to assist
7 member schools in operating student programs that foster achievement,
8 respect, equity, enthusiasm, and excellence in a safe and organized
9 environment. The legislature intends to ensure that this mission is
10 successfully carried out so that arbitrary sanctions that result in
11 students unfairly being denied to participate or cause students'
12 achievements to be diminished do not occur. It is the intent of the
13 legislature to impact the association's current processes for
14 establishing penalties for rules violations and to redefine the scope
15 of penalties that are permitted to be imposed. It is further the
16 intent of the legislature to build protections into state law so that
17 punishment, when necessary, is meted out to the appropriate party and
18 in a proportional manner. The legislature further intends to ensure

1 that state and local rules relating to interschool extracurricular
2 activities be consistent with one another, promote fairness, and allow
3 for a clear process of appeal.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 28A.600.200 and 2006 c 263 s 904 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Each school district board of directors is hereby granted and shall
7 exercise the authority to control, supervise and regulate the conduct
8 of interschool athletic activities and other interschool
9 extracurricular activities of an athletic, cultural, social or
10 recreational nature for students of the district. A board of directors
11 may delegate control, supervision and regulation of any such activity
12 to the Washington interscholastic activities association or any other
13 voluntary nonprofit entity and compensate such entity for services
14 provided, subject to the following conditions:

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

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

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

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

30 (b) No penalty may be imposed on a student or students unless the
31 student or students knowingly violated the rules;

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

34 (d) Any (~~such~~) decision resulting in a penalty shall be
35 considered a decision of the school district conducting the activity in
36 which the student seeks to participate or was participating and may be

1 appealed pursuant to RCW 28A.600.205 and 28A.645.010 through
2 28A.645.030.

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

8 **Sec. 3.** RCW 28A.600.205 and 2006 c 263 s 905 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 ((By July 1, 2006,)) (1)(a) The Washington interscholastic
11 activities association shall establish a nine-person appeals committee
12 to address appeals of noneligibility issues. The committee shall be
13 comprised of the secretary from each of the activity districts of the
14 Washington interscholastic activities association. The committee shall
15 begin hearing appeals by July 1, 2006. No committee member may
16 participate in the appeal process if the member was involved in the
17 activity that was the basis of the appeal.

18 (b) Any penalty that is imposed by the appeals committee must be
19 proportional to the offense and must be imposed upon only the offending
20 individual or individuals, including coaches, school district
21 administrators, school administrators, and students. However, no
22 punishment may be imposed on a student or students unless the student
23 or students knowingly violated the rules.

24 (2)(a) A decision of the appeals committee may be appealed to the
25 executive board of the association. If a matter is appealed to the
26 executive board, then the board shall conduct a de novo review of the
27 matter before making a decision.

28 (b) Any penalty or sanction that is imposed by the executive board
29 must be proportional to the offense and must be imposed upon only the
30 offending individual or individuals including coaches, school district
31 administrators, school administrators, or students. However, no
32 punishment may be imposed on a student or students unless the student
33 or students knowingly violated the rules.

34 (c) If a rule violation is reported to the association within ten
35 days of the relevant state championship, then the only review shall be
36 conducted by the executive board of the association so that a decision

1 can be rendered in a timely manner. The executive board must take all
2 possible actions to render a decision before the championship takes
3 place.

4 (3) A decision of the executive board of the association may be
5 appealed to superior court pursuant to RCW 28A.645.010 through
6 28A.645.030.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act may be known and cited as the
8 Knight act.

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