

**Major Impacts of Proposed 2015 House Ed Committee Bill**  
**FHSAA Analysis - March 23, 2015**

**Summary of Major Changes:**

<b>1</b>	Prohibits District School Boards and private schools from adopting more stringent rules on transfers.
<b>2</b>	Allows students attending Public School, Home Ed, and non-member Private Schools (with less than 125 students), to attend one school and participate in any extracurricular activity at another if the activity is not offered at their school.
<b>3</b>	Stipulates students will only be determined ineligible based on GPA, falsifying information and impermissible benefits. Prohibits any eligibility being based on where a student lives, where a student is zoned, age, years of play, etc.
<b>4</b>	Adds language that requires GPA to be based solely on courses that are required for graduation (some electives will not count).
<b>5</b>	Establishes that parents have authority over interscholastic athletics that is equal to the authority of a member school.
<b>6</b>	Replaces FHSAA governance (Rep. Assembly, Public Liaison Advisory, Appeals Committees, and 16 member Board) with a nine (9) member Board.
<b>7</b>	Replaces current appeal process and mediation with a two (2) step process to include an informal conference and 3 <sup>rd</sup> party arbitration with set deadlines.
<b>8</b>	Allows schools to belong to multiple athletic associations by sport.
<b>9</b>	Maintains FHSAA as governing association until July 1, 2017, at which time DOE Commissioner shall appoint governing association to be affiliated with NFHS.

**See attached Proposed Bill Index listing major topics and line number in the Bill**

**Proposed 2015 House Ed Committee Bill Index with Line Number Reference**

Text begins

<u>on Line #</u>	<u>Description of change in law</u>
55	DOE shall designate a nonprofit to govern by July 1, 2017
72	Restricts dues, fees, contest receipts - may not exceed actual cost to perform the function that is subject of the fee
78	Schools may join association by sport
82	Schools may join more than one association
85	Eliminates restriction on playing out of state schools that are not members of their state association
95	DOE may identify other associations to govern athletics, deletes reference to FHSAA bylaws governing athletics in the state
120	Transfer deadlines - may not be before the 1st day of grading period if practice begins before that date
124	Schools may allow participation after the transfer deadline, if before start of regular season competition and if it does not remove another student from the particular team
128	Removes school board and private school authority on transfers
277	Sets the first step of appeal as an informal conference - allows telephone, videoconference participation
281	Sets 10 day deadline following determination of ineligibility for the informal conference (1st step of appeal)
286	Replaces Appeals Committee, mediation and Board hearing with 3rd party arbitration in the county where student resides (final step of appeal)
292	Mandates final step of appeal - arbitration - must be held within 30 days following determination of ineligibility
375	Mandates adoption of guidelines and providing resources to educate on sportsmanship
381	Adds "parents" to same status as members of FHSAA (part of the representative democracy)
389	Board of Directors - deletes language about 16 member board and election process and inserts 9 member board - does not specify selection process - specifies makeup of the board to include public schools, choice schools, private schools, home ed, and parents of current athletes
463	Deletes Representative Assembly
524	Deletes Public Liaison Advisory Committee
549	Deletes Appeals Committees and current appeals process
625	After July 1, 2017 - The DOE shall designate one nonprofit to be the designated National Federation of High School Associations governing body for Florida. (DOE will still allow multiple non-profits to govern athletics in Florida - see lines 82 & 95)
915	Names multiple "principles" that should govern student eligibility decisions
939	Inserts definitions of "home ed cooperative; Impermissible benefit; non-profit association; public school student; recruiting; unaffiliated private school"
968	lead in sentence, defines who is eligible - "a public school or private school student..." - leaves out home education
974	GPA - adds language to specify the GPA is based only on courses required for graduation (same language is repeated throughout)
1006	Establishes only 3 conditions which may be used to declare a student ineligible: GPA, falsifying information, and impermissible benefits. Leaves out age, years of play, etc.

1025	Establishes a public school or private school student who transfers into home ed after being declared ineligible due to GPA, to be ineligible until completion of one grading period in home school
1032	Establishes a public school student who transfers into private or other public school after being declared ineligible due to GPA, to be ineligible until completion of one grading period in home school
1040	Permits students attending public school, unaffiliated private, or home ed to participate in sports not offered by the student's school to participate in any public school sports program in the school district in which the student resides or a public school in another school district. (may attend one school and play sports at a different school; left out private school students)
1085	Establishes the parents are responsible for transporting student who chooses to play sports at a different school than they are attending
1194	School Boards and private schools may not establish transfer policies more stringent than prescribed in this law
1287	Requires school board insurance for activities must cover home ed and unaffiliated private school students who participate at district schools
1308	Requires Auditor General to conduct operational audit of the non-profit association
1369	Defines participation to include new language from line 1040 (may attend one school and play for another)