

**SENATE, No. 3624**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 23, 2023

**Sponsored by:**  
**Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO**  
**District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**  
**Senator Oroho**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires school districts to let nonpublic school student participate in district high school interscholastic athletics.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/23/2023)

1 AN ACT concerning school district interscholastic sports programs  
2 and supplementing chapter 11 of Title 18A of the New Jersey  
3 Statutes.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*

7  
8 1. a. A board of education shall permit a student who attends a  
9 nonpublic school and meets the eligibility requirements for student  
10 athletes established by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic  
11 Association to try out for, and participate in, a school-sponsored high  
12 school interscholastic athletics team or squad in the student's district  
13 of residence in accordance with the same criteria established for  
14 students enrolled in the district. Any controversy concerning a  
15 student's compliance with the eligibility requirements for student-  
16 athletes established by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic  
17 Association shall be adjudicated by the association in accordance with  
18 its constitution and by-laws.

19 A student who attends a nonpublic school who wishes to compete  
20 on a school-sponsored high school interscholastic athletics team or  
21 squad in the resident district shall:

22 (1) provide proof of residence in the district; and

23 (2) meet the sports participation requirements established by the  
24 school district for students enrolled in the district, such as those  
25 regarding physical examinations, insurance, fees, age, academic, and  
26 other requirements. A nonpublic school student shall comply with the  
27 same standards of behavior, responsibilities, and performance as all  
28 other members of the team or squad.

29 b. A student who withdraws from a school district to enroll in a  
30 nonpublic school and who is ineligible to participate in interscholastic  
31 athletics at the time of withdrawal from the school district due to  
32 failure to meet academic, behavioral, or eligibility standards, shall be  
33 ineligible to compete in interscholastic athletic competition in  
34 accordance with the rules of the New Jersey State Interscholastic  
35 Athletic Association.

36 c. A board of education may charge a student who participates in  
37 a school-sponsored high school interscholastic athletics team or squad  
38 pursuant to this section, other than a student with financial hardship, a  
39 fee no greater than the actual cost per pupil of participating in the  
40 sport. In determining financial hardship the criteria shall be the same  
41 as the Statewide eligibility standards established by the State Board of  
42 Education for free and reduced price meals under the State school  
43 lunch program.

44 d. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a school  
45 district to provide transportation services or pay transportation costs  
46 associated with a nonpublic school student's participation in  
47 interscholastic athletics pursuant to the provisions of this section.

1       e. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a school  
2 district to change the schedules, procedures, or participation  
3 requirements of an interscholastic athletics team or squad to  
4 accommodate a nonpublic school student who wishes to participate in  
5 interscholastic athletics pursuant to the provisions of this section.

6  
7       2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month  
8 next following the date of enactment.

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10  
11                               **STATEMENT**

12  
13       This bill requires school districts to allow students who attend  
14 nonpublic schools to try out for, and participate in, a high school  
15 interscholastic athletics team or squad in the student's district of  
16 residence. The nonpublic school student is required to provide  
17 proof of residence in the district, and to meet the sports  
18 participation requirements established by the district for students  
19 enrolled in the district such as physical examination, insurance,  
20 fees, age, and academic requirements. The nonpublic school  
21 student is also to comply with the same standards of behavior,  
22 responsibilities, and performance as all other members of the team  
23 or squad.

24       A board of education may charge a nonpublic school student,  
25 other than a student with financial hardship, a fee no greater than  
26 the actual cost per pupil of participating in the sport.