

ARKANSAS SENATE
87th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2009
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 842

"TO AMEND HOME SCHOOL LAW IN TITLE 6."

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill No. 842.

Amend Senate Bill No. 842 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 9 and 10 and substitute the following language:
"AN ACT TO ALLOW HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC
ACTIVITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Page 1, delete line 13 and substitute the following language:
"TO ALLOW HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERSCHOLASTIC
ACTIVITIES."

AND

Page 1, delete all language after the enacting clause and substitute the
following language:

"SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 15, Subchapter 5 is amended
to add an additional section to read as follows:

6-15-509. Participation of home-schooled students in interscholastic
activities.

(a) The General Assembly recognizes that all students should have
equal access to interscholastic activities as a complement to the academic
curriculum.

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Athletic activities" means a varsity sport and any activity
related to a competitive sports contest, game, event, or exhibition that
involves an individual student or teams of students whether the activity
occurs among schools within the resident school district or between schools
outside of the resident school district;

(2) "Interscholastic activity" means any interschool activity
that is outside the regular curriculum of a public school district, including
without limitation an athletic activity, a fine arts program, and a special
interest club or group that is subject to regulations of the Arkansas



Activities Association; and

(3) "Resident school district" means the public school district in which the home-schooled student resides.

(c) A resident school district shall permit a home-schooled student to participate in any interscholastic activity, provided that the home-schooled student:

(1) Advises the resident school in writing of the student's intent to participate in the interscholastic activity;

(2) Meets the eligibility criteria for participation in the interscholastic activity that apply to students enrolled in the resident school district, including standards of behavior and codes of conduct;

(3) Meets the tryout criteria for participation in the interscholastic activity that apply to students enrolled in the resident school district;

(4) Demonstrates educational progress by submitting a norm-referenced standardized test score, taken within nine (9) months of advising the resident school of the student's intent to participate in an interscholastic activity, on which the student's composite score is at or above the 35th percentile;

(5) Complies with all policies, rules, and regulations of the Arkansas Activities Association and the governing organization of the interscholastic activity; and

(6) Pays any participation or activity fee equal to the fee charged to students enrolled in the resident school district who participate in the interscholastic activity.

(d)(1) When the interscholastic activity requires completion of a physical examination or medical test as a condition of participation and the resident school district offers the physical examination or medical test to students enrolled in the resident school district, the resident school district shall permit a home-schooled student to take the physical examination or medical test.

(2) The resident school district shall publish the dates and times of the physical examination or medical test on its publicly accessible website.

(e) Insurance coverage provided by a public school district for participants in interscholastic activities shall cover a participating home-schooled student.

(f)(1) A public school team or group shall not be impeded from competing against any other public or nonpublic school team or group because the team or group utilized a home-schooled student as provided under this section.

(2) A public school district is prohibited from membership in an organization which regulates or governs interscholastic activities and discriminates against an eligible student in a public or nonpublic school, including a home-schooled student.

(g) The resident school district may adopt a policy to implement the requirements of this section, provided that the policy applies only to participation in interscholastic activities and does not conflict with this section."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator G. Baker

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Secretary