

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

H

1

HOUSE BILL 253

Short Title: Home Schoolers Participate in School Sports. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Dixon and Cleveland (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

Referred to: Education.

March 9, 2011

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PERMIT HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN
3 INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 115C-12(23) reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 115C-12. Powers and duties of the Board generally.**

7 The general supervision and administration of the free public school system shall be vested
8 in the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education shall establish policy for the
9 system of free public schools, subject to laws enacted by the General Assembly. The powers
10 and duties of the State Board of Education are defined as follows:

11 ...

12 (23) Power to Adopt Eligibility Rules for Interscholastic Athletic Competition. –
13 The State Board of Education may adopt rules governing interscholastic
14 athletic activities conducted by local boards of education, including
15 eligibility for student participation. Students attending home schools shall be
16 permitted to participate in interscholastic athletic activities in accordance
17 with the requirements of G.S. 115C-565.1. The State Board of Education
18 may authorize a designated organization to apply and enforce the Board's
19 rules governing participation in interscholastic athletic activities at the high
20 school level."

21 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 115C-47(4) reads as rewritten:

22 "**§ 115C-47. Powers and duties generally.**

23 In addition to the powers and duties designated in G.S. 115C-36, local boards of education
24 shall have the power or duty:

25 ...

26 (4) To Regulate Extracurricular Activities. – Local boards of education shall
27 make all rules and regulations necessary for the conducting of
28 extracurricular activities in the schools under their supervision, including a
29 program of athletics, where desired, without assuming liability therefore;
30 provided, that all interscholastic athletic activities shall be conducted in
31 accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the State Board of
32 ~~Education.~~ Education, and that students attending home schools shall be
33 permitted to participate in interscholastic athletic activities in accordance
34 with the requirements of G.S. 115C-565.1."



1 **SECTION 3.** Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new section to read:

3 **"§ 115C-565.1. Participation of home schooled students in interscholastic athletics.**

4 (a) Eligibility. – To be eligible to participate in interscholastic public school athletics, a
5 home schooled student shall meet the residency criteria of G.S. 115C-366(1) and shall
6 participate only at the school to which the student would be assigned by the local board of
7 education if enrolled in public school.

8 (b) Compliance With Rules. – A home schooled student shall comply with all rules and
9 regulations established by the local board of education and the State Board of Education,
10 except that a home schooled student shall not be required to meet school enrollment
11 requirements. The home schooled student shall meet the same standards of acceptance,
12 behavior, and performance as required of enrolled public school students participating in
13 interscholastic athletics.

14 (c) Academic Progress. –

15 (1) Academic eligibility required for participation. – A student who has not met
16 established academic eligibility requirements for athletic participation shall
17 be ineligible to participate in interscholastic athletics as a home schooled
18 student until academic eligibility is established.

19 (2) Assessment of academic progress. – A home schooled student shall
20 demonstrate any required academic eligibility in all subjects taken in the
21 home schooled program by a method of evaluation agreed upon by the
22 parent and the school principal.

23 (d) Registration. – A home schooled student shall register with the school his or her
24 intent to participate in interscholastic athletics before the beginning date of the season for the
25 activity in which the student wishes to participate.

26 (e) Fees and Insurance. – A home schooled student shall be required to pay any fees for
27 participation required of enrolled public school students and shall be required to purchase any
28 supplemental insurance required of enrolled public school students or as reasonably established
29 for home school participation."

30 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies beginning with
31 the 2011-2012 school year.