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SENATE BILL NO. 812

Offered January 9, 2013

Prefiled December 20, 2012

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-7.2, relating to participation in public school interscholastic programs by students receiving home instruction.

Patrons—Garrett and Martin

Referred to Committee on Education and Health

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 22.1 a section numbered 22.1-7.2 as follows:

§ 22.1-7.2. Organizations governing public school interscholastic programs; participation by students receiving home instruction.

A. No public school shall become a member of any organization or entity whose purpose is to regulate or govern interscholastic programs that does not deem eligible for participation a student who (i) is receiving home instruction pursuant to § 22.1-254.1; (ii) has demonstrated evidence of progress in compliance with subsection C of § 22.1-254.1 for at least two consecutive academic years immediately preceding the academic year during which the student seeks to participate; (iii) is in compliance with the immunization requirements set forth in § 22.1-271.4; (iv) is entitled to free tuition in a public school pursuant to § 22.1-3; (v) has not reached the age of 19 by August 1 of the current academic year; (vi) is an amateur who receives no compensation but participates solely for the educational, physical, mental, and social benefits of the activity; (vii) complies with all disciplinary rules and is subject to all codes of conduct applicable to all public high school athletes; and (viii) complies with all other rules governing awards, all-star games, maximum consecutive semesters of high school enrollment, parental consents, physical examinations, and transfers applicable to all high school athletes. Eligibility of a student receiving home instruction shall be limited to participation in interscholastic programs at the school serving the attendance zone in which the student lives and shall be subject to all policies governing such participation that the local school board may establish.

B. Reasonable fees may be charged to students receiving home instruction to cover the costs of participation in such interscholastic programs, including the costs of additional insurance, uniforms, or equipment.

INTRODUCED

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