



Rep. Michael G. Connelly

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1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 2392

2 AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_. Amend House Bill 2392 by replacing  
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the High  
5 School State Tournaments, Competitions, and Fairness Act.

6 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds the  
7 following:

8 (1) That, pursuant to Section 1 of Article X of the  
9 Illinois Constitution, a fundamental goal of the people of  
10 this State is the educational development of all persons to  
11 the limits of their capacities.

12 (2) That, pursuant to Section 1 of Article X of the  
13 Illinois Constitution, the State has provided substantial  
14 funding to the system of public education, and that the  
15 funds provided by the State have assisted the high schools  
16 of this State to finance sporting competition, to pay

1 coaches' salaries, and to provide sports facilities used by  
2 the public schools of this State.

3 (3) That high school sports competitions should be won  
4 fairly and squarely on the fields of play, and that rules  
5 and regulations designed to give any school or group of  
6 schools a legislative advantage over another school or  
7 group of schools should be forbidden.

8 (4) That certain organizations or associations hold or  
9 claim to hold sports tournaments for the high school  
10 student athletes of this State and to award State  
11 championships and State titles to the winners of these  
12 tournaments.

13 (5) That certain organizations holding State  
14 tournaments that purport to award State championships or  
15 State titles based on fair competition have passed rules  
16 that have the appearance of discriminating against  
17 parochial, private, and magnet schools.

18 (6) That if publicly funded schools participate in  
19 sports tournaments that purport to award State  
20 championships or State titles, then these tournaments must  
21 be conducted consistently with the spirit and requirements  
22 of due process and equal protection under Section 2 of  
23 Article I of the Illinois Constitution, and that race,  
24 religion, creed, and national ancestry should be  
25 irrelevant to and shall have no part in the competition.

26 (7) That State titles and State championships should be

1 won on the basis of excellence on the fields of play and  
2 roughly equal contestants on the fields of play, and that  
3 it is inconsistent with the notions of public education  
4 that any school should be barred from competition or put at  
5 a competitive disadvantage by organization or association  
6 rules that apply to one school in the competition and not  
7 the other.

8 (8) That smaller schools cannot fairly compete with  
9 substantially larger schools, and that it should therefore  
10 be permissible to create classes, such as Class A and Class  
11 AA, but that these classes must be based on actual  
12 enrollments and not upon imaginary students.

13 (9) That devices, such as multipliers, that create the  
14 illusion that a school has more than its actual number of  
15 students are forbidden.

16 (10) That disputes between an organization or  
17 association and any member school over recruiting  
18 practices require a hearing that meets with the procedural  
19 notions of due process, including an impartial hearing  
20 panel, a charge, an opportunity to be heard, and the right  
21 to appear by counsel.

22 Section 10. Application. This Act applies to competitions  
23 run by any person, corporation, organization, or association in  
24 this State purporting to award a State championship, State  
25 title, or the like and involving the publicly funded high

1 schools of this State.

2 Section 15. Prohibitions. In all competitions, no  
3 distinctions between schools may be made on the basis of race,  
4 religion, creed, or nation of origin, and no parochial,  
5 private, charter, or magnet school may be barred from such  
6 competition or be placed at a competitive disadvantage. No  
7 publicly funded high school in this State may participate in  
8 any State tournament or State title competition if the  
9 organizer seeks by use of a multiplier or like device to move  
10 any school into a higher class.

11 Section 20. Tournament organization. A tournament  
12 organizer may organize classes based on the actual number of  
13 students attending a school. The organizer may provide for  
14 separate boys' and girls' tournaments. In determining classes,  
15 boys' classes must be based on the actual number of boys  
16 attending the school, and girls' classes must be based on the  
17 actual number of girls attending the school. The use of  
18 multipliers and like devices are forbidden.".