

HB298 ENGROSSED



1 HB298
2 KHMEGAA-2
3 By Representatives Colvin, Kiel, Robbins, Fidler, Woods, Ross
4
5 RFD: Education Policy
6 First Read: 18-Feb-25



HB298 Engrossed

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to public high schools; to require athletic associations to adjust schools' athletic classification under certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "athletic association" has the same meaning as provided in Section 16-1-52.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) Solely for purposes of classifying public high schools for competition in athletic association championship programs or other interscholastic athletic events, an athletic association of which a public high school is a member shall adjust the school's athletic classification to reflect the number of English language learner students who do not participate in any interscholastic athletic events.

(c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to implement this section.

(d) An athletic association shall include, as non-voting members of the association's governing body, one member of the House of Representatives from the minority party appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and



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29 one member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro
30 Tempore of the Senate.

31 (e) This section shall apply beginning with the
32 classifications in effect for the 2026-2027 academic school
33 year.

34 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
35 2025.



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House of Representatives

39 Read for the first time and referred18-Feb-25
40 to the House of Representatives
41 committee on Education Policy
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43 Read for the second time and placed19-Mar-25
44 on the calendar:
45 0 amendments
46
47 Read for the third time and passed29-Apr-25
48 as amended
49 Yeas 72
50 Nays 1
51 Abstains 29
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54 John Treadwell
55 Clerk
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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require athletic associations to adjust a public high school's athletic classification if a certain number of English language learners are enrolled at the school.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public high schools; to require athletic associations to adjust schools' athletic classification under certain circumstances.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "athletic association" has the same meaning as provided in Section 16-1-52.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) Solely for purposes of classifying public high schools for competition in athletic association championship programs or other interscholastic athletic events, if 15 percent or more of the students enrolled in grades nine, ten, and eleven at a public high school are English language learners, an athletic association of which the school is a member shall adjust the school's athletic classification to



29 reflect the number of these students who do not participate in
30 any interscholastic athletic events.

31 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
32 implement this section.

33 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
34 2025.



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4 SYNOPSIS:

5 This bill would require athletic associations to
6 adjust a public high school's athletic classification
7 if a certain number of English language learners are
8 enrolled at the school.
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11 A BILL
12 TO BE ENTITLED
13 AN ACT
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15 Relating to public high schools; to require athletic
16 associations to adjust schools' athletic classification under
17 certain circumstances.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

19 Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term
20 "athletic association" has the same meaning as provided in
21 Section 16-1-52.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

22 (b) Solely for purposes of classifying public high
23 schools for competition in athletic association championship
24 programs or other interscholastic athletic events, if 15
25 percent or more of the students enrolled in grades nine, ten,
26 and eleven at a public high school are English language
27 learners, an athletic association of which the school is a
28 member shall adjust the school's athletic classification to



29 reflect the number of these students who do not participate in
30 any interscholastic athletic events.

31 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
32 implement this section.

33 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
34 2025.

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1 HB298

2 6H5V311-1

3 By Representatives Colvin, Kiel, Robbins, Fidler, Woods, Ross

4

5 RFD: Education Policy

6 First Read: 18-Feb-25



SYNOPSIS:

This bill would restrict certain English language learner students from being included in the average daily membership of public schools for purposes of classifying a school for athletic competition.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to public K-12 schools; to restrict certain English language learner students from being included in average daily membership for purposes of classifying a school for athletic competition.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "athletic association" has the same meaning as provided in Section 16-1-52.1, Code of Alabama 1975.

(b) Solely for purposes of classifying public schools for competition in athletic association championship programs or other interscholastic athletic events, students identified as English language learners who do not participate in any interscholastic athletic events may not be included in calculating the average daily membership for any public school



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29 during their first five years of enrollment.

30 (c) The State Board of Education shall adopt rules to
31 implement this section.

32 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
33 2025.



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5 Replace line 32 on page 2 with the following:

6 implement this section.

7 (d) An athletic association shall include, as
8 non-voting members of the association's governing body,
9 one member of the House of Representatives from the
10 minority party appointed by the Speaker of the House of
11 Representatives and one member of the Senate appointed by
12 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.



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Replace lines 24 through 27 on page 1 with the following:

programs or other interscholastic athletic events, an
athletic association of which a public high school is a

Replace line 29 on page 2 with the following:

reflect the number of English language learner
students who do not participate in



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Replace line 32 on page 2 with the following:

implement this section.

(d) This section shall apply beginning with the
classifications in effect for the 2026-2027 academic
school year.