

FEB 23 2025



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
STATE SENATE

February 17, 2026

Commissioner Julian Tackett
Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2280 Executive Drive
Lexington, Kentucky 40505

Dear Commissioner Tackett:

The Senate has adopted Senate Resolution No. 81, on February 13, 2026. I am enclosing a copy for you, as directed by the Resolution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna Robinson Holiday".

Donna Robinson Holiday
Chief Clerk of the Senate

DH:dg

Enc.: Resolution urging the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA)
to recognize girls flag football as an official sport for its member schools

IN SENATE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 81

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Senator C. Armstrong introduced the following resolution which was ordered to be printed.

1 A RESOLUTION urging the Kentucky High School Athletic Association
2 (KHSAA) to recognize girls flag football as an official sport for its member schools.

3 WHEREAS, flag football is rapidly increasing in popularity, particularly in youth
4 leagues, due to the fewer number of violent collisions involved in the sport; and

5 WHEREAS, the sport has especially been embraced by young girls, many of whom
6 are aging out of youth leagues and entering the high school ranks; and

7 WHEREAS, many states across the nation have recognized this emerging trend,
8 with 17 states having already sanctioned girls flag football as an official interscholastic
9 sport; and

10 WHEREAS, an additional 21 states, including Kentucky, have unsanctioned pilot
11 programs where girls are participating in this growing sport; and

12 WHEREAS, in Kentucky, the Kentucky Girls High School Flag Football
13 Association (KGHSFFA) completed its second year of competition in November 2025,
14 growing from 12 competing teams in its first year to 24 teams in year two; and

15 WHEREAS, in the 2025 KGHSFFA championship, the Assumption High School
16 Rockets defeated the Jaguars of Mercy Academy by a score of 13 to 6 to capture their
17 second consecutive title; and

18 WHEREAS, the enthusiasm of the participants in this nascent sport was perhaps
19 best expressed by Reese Owen, an Assumption senior and former gymnast who joined
20 the flag football team, who said, "It is my favorite sport I have ever done. I've done
21 almost every sport in the books, and I would say football has been my favorite"; and

22 WHEREAS, in a recent survey conducted by the KHSAA, 88 member schools said
23 they would field a girls flag football team if the sport were sponsored by the KHSAA;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, sanctioning this sport would continue to build on the KHSAA's 60-
26 year history of expanding athletic opportunities for young women through interscholastic
27 athletics;

1 NOW, THEREFORE,

2 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
3 *Kentucky:*

4 ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate encourage the Kentucky High School
5 Athletic Association to consider recognizing and sanctioning girls flag football as an
6 official sport offered by the organization.

7 ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to
8 Commissioner Julian Tackett, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, 2280
9 Executive Drive, Lexington, KY 40505.