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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
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Office

S.B. 259
135th General Assembly

Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement

[Click here for S.B. 259's Bill Analysis](#)

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Gavarone

Local Impact Statement Procedure Required: No

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Highlights

- A school district or other public school may incur some permissive administrative or athletics costs if the district or school opts to allow students educated outside the district or school and that are subject to qualifying offenses to participate in interscholastic athletics.

Detailed Analysis

The bill allows school district superintendents and chief administrative officers of other public schools and nonpublic schools to permit a student who is subject to a qualifying offense and is educated at home or enrolled in a different school district or school to participate in interscholastic athletics at any school overseen by that superintendent or chief administrative officer without penalty, restricted eligibility, or additional fees. A student may qualify to participate in interscholastic athletics at a different school under the bill if the student was subject to harassment, intimidation, bullying, an offense of violence or importuning (attempted or committed), or conduct that violates the Licensure Code of Professional Conduct for Ohio Educators.

The bill requires a student to, generally, be of the appropriate age and grade level and to fulfill the same nonacademic and financial requirements as any other participant. Based on conversations with the Buckeye Association of School Administrators (BASA), the bill may lead to some permissive administrative costs for school districts and other public schools that opt to allow athletic transfers to verify eligibility in the school of attendance. Any interscholastic athletics program costs due to the bill are also permissive and will vary based on the policies districts have in place.