

HB 1551 -- EQUAL ACCESS TO INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

SPONSOR: Fitzpatrick

This bill establishes the Equal Access to Interscholastic Activities act, which requires that a home school student must be allowed the opportunity to participate in interscholastic activities when:

- (1) The student meets the school district's eligibility requirements, except for class attendance and the class and enrollment requirements of any association governing interscholastic activities;
- (2) The student's teacher certifies that the student complies with state law on compulsory education;
- (3) The student resides in the attendance boundaries of the school;
- (4) The student notifies the superintendent of his or her intent to participate before practice sessions begin;
- (5) The student's participation does not deprive another student of an opportunity to participate.

A public school student who becomes academically ineligible cannot participate as a home school student for the following semester. A home school student must fulfill the same responsibilities of behavior and performance and must meet the same acceptance requirements as other students. A school district must not maintain membership in any organization that discriminates against home school students in interscholastic activities.