

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 867

By Senators Nelson, Rucker, and Hamilton

[Introduced February 19, 2024; referred
to the Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-2-25f, relating to allowing students to participate in non-school activities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-25f. Participation in non-school activities.

1 (a) Legislative Intent- The Legislature of West Virginia makes the following findings:

2 (1) While participation in school sponsored extracurricular sports is a voluntary opportunity,
3 no student-athlete should be deprived of additional opportunities to advance or showcase their
4 skills purely because they are playing for a school sports team.

5 (2) Prohibiting a student-athlete from participating in non-school sponsored events or
6 activities as condition for participation on a school-sponsored team is unlawfully arbitrary and is
7 not rationally related to a state purpose.

8 (b) A county board of education and the West Virginia Secondary School Activities
9 Commission shall not restrict or prohibit a student from competing in non-school events or
10 participating on non-school competitive teams as a condition of playing for the same school
11 extracurricular activity or sport.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to allow student-athletes to participate in competitive events and activities while playing for their school.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.