



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0529/1

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2025 ASSEMBLY BILL 51

February 20, 2025 - Introduced by Representatives DUCHOW, BROOKS, CALLAHAN, DITTRICH, KNODL, KREIBICH, MELOTIK, NEDWESKI, O'CONNOR, PRONSCHINSKE, WICHGERS and TUSLER, cosponsored by Senators TOMCZYK and NASS. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 19.32 (1) and 19.82 (1); *to create* 19.32 (1db), 19.36 (17) and
2 (18), 19.82 (1m) and 118.1335 of the statutes; **relating to:** participation in
3 interscholastic athletics and application of the public records and open
4 meetings laws to interscholastic athletic associations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits a school district from being a member of an interscholastic athletic association unless the association elects to be governed by the state's public records and open meetings laws. An interscholastic athletic association that elects to be governed by the public records and open meetings laws is subject to those laws. Under the bill, an interscholastic athletic association can be either a nonprofit, unincorporated association or a nonstock, nonprofit corporation if the unincorporated association or corporation coordinates athletic events or contests for students enrolled in grades 9 to 12 in public schools. The bill includes exceptions for records of an interscholastic athletic association pertaining to individual referees or individual pupils.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

ASSEMBLY BILL 51**SECTION 1**

SECTION 1. 19.32 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

19.32 (1) “Authority” means any of the following having custody of a record: a state or local office, elective official, agency, board, commission, committee, council, department or public body corporate and politic created by the constitution or by any law, ordinance, rule or order; a governmental or quasi-governmental corporation except for the Bradley center sports and entertainment corporation; a special purpose district; any court of law; the assembly or senate; a nonprofit corporation which receives more than 50 percent of its funds from a county or a municipality, as defined in s. 59.001 (3), and which provides services related to public health or safety to the county or municipality; a university police department under s. 175.42; an interscholastic athletic association that elects to be governed by this subchapter; or a formally constituted subunit of any of the foregoing.

SECTION 2. 19.32 (1db) of the statutes is created to read:

19.32 (1db) “Interscholastic athletic association” means a nonprofit association, as defined in s. 184.01 (2), or a nonstock, nonprofit corporation organized under ch. 181, that coordinates athletic events or contests for students enrolled in grades 9 to 12 in public schools.

SECTION 3. 19.36 (17) and (18) of the statutes are created to read:

19.36 (17) INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION REFEREE RECORDS. An interscholastic athletic association that elects to be governed by this subchapter may withhold access to records concerning individual referees.

(18) INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION PUPIL RECORDS. Records concerning an individual pupil maintained by an interscholastic athletic

ASSEMBLY BILL 51**SECTION 3**

1 association that elects to be governed by this subchapter are not subject to the right
2 of inspection or copying under s. 19.35 (1).

3 **SECTION 4.** 19.82 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 19.82 (1) "Governmental body" means a state or local agency, board,
5 commission, committee, council, department or public body corporate and politic
6 created by constitution, statute, ordinance, rule or order; a governmental or quasi-
7 governmental corporation except for the Bradley center sports and entertainment
8 corporation; a local exposition district under subch. II of ch. 229; a long-term care
9 district under s. 46.2895; an interscholastic athletic association that elects to be
10 governed by this subchapter; or a formally constituted subunit of any of the
11 foregoing, but excludes any such body or committee or subunit of such body which is
12 formed for or meeting for the purpose of collective bargaining under subch. I, IV, or
13 V of ch. 111.

14 **SECTION 5.** 19.82 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

15 19.82 (1m) "Interscholastic athletic association" means a nonprofit
16 association, as defined in s. 184.01 (2), or a nonstock, nonprofit corporation
17 organized under ch. 181, that coordinates athletic events or contests for students
18 enrolled in grades 9 to 12 in public schools.

19 **SECTION 6.** 118.1335 of the statutes is created to read:

20 **118.1335 Interscholastic athletic association membership.** No school
21 district may be a member of an interscholastic athletic association, as defined in s.

ASSEMBLY BILL 51

SECTION 6

1 19.32 (1db), unless the interscholastic athletic association elects to be governed by
2 subchs. II and V of ch. 19.

3 (END)