

SENATE BILL 1736

By Hensley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
relative to school sports.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 6, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) Each public school that serves any combination of the grades five through twelve (5-12) and that provides interscholastic sports or athletic events for the school's students shall require each student who seeks to participate in a single-sex interscholastic sport or athletic event to verify that the student is of the respective sex before the student may participate in the interscholastic sport or athletic event.

(b)

(1) A student may verify the student's sex by providing the school with a copy of the student's birth certificate. A school shall not accept a birth certificate that has been revised, altered, or amended with respect to the student's sex or that does not designate the student as male or female.

(2) If a student is unable to verify the student's sex under subdivision (b)(1), then the student may verify the student's sex by providing the school with the certified results of a genetic or DNA test conducted by a healthcare practitioner licensed under title 63 that establishes the student's biological sex.

(c) If a student fails to verify the student's sex under subsection (b) for purposes of the student's participation in a single-sex interscholastic sport or athletic event, or if the public school determines that the student is not of the respective sex to participate in

the single-sex interscholastic sport or athletic event, then the public school shall not allow the student to participate in the interscholastic sport or athletic event.

(d) This section does not prohibit students from participating in a co-educational sport or athletic event provided by a public school. Students may participate in a co-educational sport or athletic event provided by the student's public school without having to comply with the requirements of this section.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to the 2020-2021 school year and each school year thereafter.