

The House Committee on Education offers the following substitute to SB 51:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to other educational programs under the Quality Basic Education Act,
3 so as to provide that no high school that receives QBE funds shall participate in, sponsor, or
4 provide coaching staff for interscholastic sports events which are conducted under the
5 authority of, conducted under the rules of, or scheduled by any athletic association unless
6 such athletic association provides for an executive oversight committee; to provide for the
7 appointment, membership, selection of officers, meetings, duties, and authorities of such
8 executive oversight committee; to provide for reimbursement for such executive oversight
9 committee; to provide for noncompliant high schools to forfeit QBE funding; to provide for
10 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

11 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

12 **SECTION 1.**

13 Part 14 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
14 relating to other educational programs under the Quality Basic Education Act, is amended
15 in Code Section 20-2-316, relating to involvement of athletic associations in high school
16 athletics, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

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17 “(c)(1) No high school which receives funding under this article shall participate in,
18 sponsor, or provide coaching staff for interscholastic sports events which are conducted
19 under the authority of, conducted under the rules of, or scheduled by any athletic
20 association unless the athletic association complies with the provisions of this subsection
21 by having a charter, bylaws, and other governing documents which provide for
22 governance and operational oversight by an executive oversight committee as follows:
23 (A) The executive oversight committee shall comprise ten members as follows:
24 (i) One member to be appointed by the Governor;
25 (ii) One member to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;
26 (iii) One member to be appointed by Speaker of the House of Representatives;
27 (iv) Two members to be appointed by the Georgia School Superintendents
28 Association, with one such member representing approximately one-half of the
29 athletic association's participating schools with classifications by the athletic
30 association based on lower student enrollment figures and the other such member
31 representing approximately one-half of the athletic association's participating schools
32 with classifications by the athletic association based on higher student enrollment
33 figures;
34 (v) One member to be appointed by the Georgia School Boards Association;
35 (vi) One member to be appointed by a state-wide association of high school athletic
36 coaches with a current membership of not less than 300 Georgia residents and which
37 is recognized by a majority of the executive oversight committee;
38 (vii) One member to be appointed by a state-wide association of high school athletic
39 officials, referees, and umpires with a current membership of not less than 300
40 Georgia residents and which is recognized by a majority of the executive oversight
41 committee; and
42 (viii) Two members to be appointed by the governing body of the athletic association,
43 with one such member representing approximately one-half of the athletic

44 association's participating schools with classifications by the athletic association
45 based on lower student enrollment figures and the other such member representing
46 approximately one-half of the athletic association's participating schools with
47 classifications by the athletic association based on higher student enrollment figures;
48 (B) A quorum of the executive oversight committee shall consist of 6 members;
49 (C) The executive oversight committee shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson
50 from among its members;
51 (D) Members of the executive oversight committee shall serve terms of three years and
52 are eligible to succeed themselves only once. The athletic association's bylaws shall
53 establish a rotation of terms to ensure that a majority of the members' terms do not
54 expire concurrently. The athletic association's bylaws shall provide for successors to
55 such members who vacate office for any reason;
56 (E) The authority and duties of the executive oversight committee shall include:
57 (i) To meet in person or remotely not less than twice each school year;
58 (ii) To meet in person or remotely upon the call of the chairperson or a majority of
59 the executive oversight committee;
60 (iii) To establish policies and procedures for the executive oversight committee;
61 (iv) To conduct any independent audit, review, or investigation the executive
62 oversight committee deems necessary, including, but not limited to, the audit, review,
63 or investigation of the classifications of participating schools and travel-related issues
64 of participating schools; and
65 (v) To conduct an annual evaluation of the athletic association as a whole and present
66 a report of its findings, recommendations, and conclusions to the General Assembly's
67 High School Athletics Overview Committee; and
68 (F) Travel and other expenses actually incurred by the executive oversight committee,
69 or any member thereof in the performance of his or her duties, shall be reimbursed by
70 the athletic association.

71 (2) Any high school that participates in, sponsors, or provides coaching staff for
72 interscholastic sports events which are conducted under the authority of, conducted under
73 the rules of, or scheduled by any athletic association that does not comply with the
74 provisions of this Code section shall forfeit its allotted funding provided for under this
75 article."

76 **SECTION 2.**

77 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.