

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Male and female students; athletic participation and privacy

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Overview

Defines a student's "sex" in terms of the student's chromosomes and anatomy at birth. Prohibits male students from trying out or participating on teams established for female students. Directs the Minnesota State High School League to conform its rules, guidelines, procedures, and bylaws to this requirement.

Allows students of only one sex access to a public school student restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room designated for the exclusive use of that sex. Allows public schools to accommodate a student's special circumstances but prohibits the public school from allowing that student to use a public school restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room designated for use by students of the other sex.

Section

1 Athletic teams; participation.

Subd. 1. Level of skill and ability. Allows K-12 schools to make students' demonstrated skill and ability a condition for participating in a team sport.

Subd. 2. Female teams; male participation. Prohibits male students from trying out or participating on a team established for female students. Defines a student's "sex" based on the student's chromosomes and anatomy at birth.

Subd. 3. Minnesota State High School League. Directs the Minnesota State High School League to conform its rules, guidelines, procedures, and bylaws to this section.

Makes this section effective immediately.

Section

2 Student physical privacy act.

Subd. 1. Purpose. Declares that the purpose of this section is to protect and provide for the privacy and safety of all public school students and to maintain order and dignity in students' restrooms, locker rooms, changing rooms, and other similar facilities.

Subd. 2. Defines: a student's "sex" in terms of the student's chromosomes and anatomy at birth; "public school" as a public elementary, middle, or secondary school or vocational center under the state compulsory attendance law.

Subd. 3. Student physical privacy protection. (a) Requires a public school student restroom, locker room, changing room, and shower room accessible to multiple students at the same time to be used exclusively by male or female students.

(b) Allows students of only one sex access to a public school student restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room designated for the exclusive use of that sex.

(c) For other public school facilities or settings where students may undress in the presence of other students, requires school personnel to designate and provide separate, private, and safe areas for students to use based on their sex.

(d) Allows public schools to accommodate a student's special circumstances upon request but prohibits the public school from allowing that student to use a public school student restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room designated for the exclusive use of students of the other sex.