

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

SENATE BILL NO. 459

By: Laughlin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to schools; prohibiting membership of school districts in organizations that exclude certain students from certain competitive events; stating conditions for membership; prohibiting school districts from competing in competitive events sponsored by certain organizations; stating qualifications for competition by certain persons; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 24-155 of Title 70, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

No school or school district shall belong to an organization that conducts student sports or interscholastic competitive events or participate in a student sports or other interscholastic competition, including speech, drama, music, debate, academic, vocational education, agriculture, or homemaking competition, sponsored by such organization unless the organization allows a school district to include as competitors in individual events persons between the ages of six (6) and nineteen (19) years of age who:

1. Are foreign exchange students on J-1 visas, sponsored by an organization that adheres to guidelines set by the United States Information Agency for Exchange Visitor Programs; or

2. Are not enrolled as students in any public school within the district and:

a. are residents of the district,

- b. are actively pursuing elementary or secondary education in grades one through twelve,
- c. meet all eligibility requirements for participation set by the organization or the school except class attendance requirements, and
- d. have not been declared academically ineligible to participate during the preceding two (2) school years.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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