

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 813

BY SENATORS GRADY, DEEDS, TARR, WELD, TAYLOR,

AND RUCKER

[Introduced February 16, 2024; referred
to the Committee on Education]

1 A BILL to amend the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new section,
2 designated §18-2-25f, relating to allowing students to participate in non-school athletic
3 activities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

§18-2-25f. Participation in non-school athletic activities.

1 The Legislature hereby finds that:

2 (1) While participation in school-sponsored extracurricular sports is a voluntary
3 opportunity, no student-athlete should be deprived of additional opportunities to advance or
4 showcase their skills purely because they are playing for a school sports team;

5 (2) Prohibiting a student-athlete from participating in nonschool-sponsored events or
6 activities as a condition for participation on a school-sponsored team is unlawfully arbitrary and is
7 not rationally related to a state purpose; and

8 (3) A county board of education and the West Virginia Secondary School Activities
9 Commission may not restrict nor prohibit a student from competing in nonschool-sponsored
10 events or participating on nonschool-sponsored competitive teams as a condition of playing for a
11 school-sponsored extracurricular activity or sport.