

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2026 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

Senate Bill 689

By Senator Grady

[Introduced January 30, 2026; referred
to the Committee on Education]

A BILL to amend and reenact §18-2-25e of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to reducing the grade levels in which a student is allowed to transfer schools at least one time without losing academic eligibility to grades nine and 10.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.
§18-2-25e. Athletic eligibility of transfer students.

(a) The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission shall modify its rule, prior to the ~~2023-2024~~ 2026-2027 school year, to allow students to transfer schools and retain athletic eligibility at least one time during a student's ~~four~~ first two years of secondary school, inclusive of grades nine ~~through 12~~ and 10. The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission may promulgate an emergency rule, if necessary, to modify its rule prior to the ~~2023-2024~~ 2026-2027 school year.

(b) Nothing in this section is intended to limit or restrict a student transferring more than one time for the following reasons:

(1) The West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission's ability to make eligibility determinations on a case-by-case basis when warranted by a student's circumstances in accordance with the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission's rules; or

(2) For any other reason permitted under the rules of the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to reduce the grade levels in which a student is allowed to transfer schools at least one time without losing academic eligibility to grades nine and 10.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.