

# **One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB1081**

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**Chairperson: Senator Kate Sullivan**

**Committee: Education**

**Date of Hearing:**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 1081 is intended to address the issues of parity in high school sports in several ways.

First, the bill states that any student who transfers by May 1 will have two weeks to change his or her mind and return to the original school. The two-week grace period will allow students a window to make sure the transfer is in the best interests of the student without being penalized.

Secondly, any student who transfers after May 1 without a bona fide change of domicile would be ineligible for varsity competition for 180 school days from the date of the transfer. Currently, such a transfer student would only be ineligible for 90 days. Again, the intent is to make transferring a more serious decision that should be done only after careful consideration.

Finally, the bill creates a success factor that would be utilized during the reclassification process that is specific to each team sport. High schools would be reclassified every two years. At the time of reclassification, a look-back of the previous four years would occur during which points would be assigned to each team sport based on their final level of achievement.

District champion - 1 point

First-round winner - 2 points

Semi-final winner - 3 points

State champion - 4 points

If a team earns 12 or more points during the four-year-look-back period, then only that sports team from that high school would be moved up one class for the next two years. If the sports team achieved 8 to 11 points, then that sports team would stay in its current class for the next two years. If the sports team achieved fewer than 8 points, then the sports team would be classified based only on enrollment for the next two years.

If a class has a set number of high schools, then the high schools with the smallest enrollments that had not moved into the class due to the success factor would drop down one class until that class has reached its set number of high schools.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Russ Karpisek**