

ND Representatives,

Please consider passing this bill to eliminate transfer rules in North Dakota.

At Williston Trinity Christian School, we have seen many students punished by these harsh rules, including the following:

- *students who are migrant families that travel for a few months during the school year for work
- *students whose parents are going through a separation and are split between homes
- *students who are looking to get out of a bad situation in their current school and aren't able to build the evidence needed to qualify for an exemption, because many times their former school administration does not want to admit the problem
- *homeschool students who have tried a different option and have found it's not the best fit for them

As a private school, if we wanted to recruit athletes from around the country, we could already be doing that by recruiting freshman to be eligible to play immediately or high school students that are willing to play JV for a calendar year. That is not our goal. Our goal is to serve our students that are here now.

Lastly, I would like to add that it seems extreme to punish students who transfer in the areas of music and speech competition. Since there isn't an alternative for competition in these areas, students are left to miss out on an opportunity to work toward a goal in the area of fine arts, which builds character and allows students to explore another interest. What is to be gained by punishing a student in the area of fine arts?

NDHSAA may argue that the percentage of students who are subjected to their punishments is quite small. For our school, it is an every year occurrence that students are sitting out of Varsity competition, most of them for the reasons listed above.

Let them play.

Kasey Richards
Williston Trinity Christian School