

This bill would have disastrous consequences in my opinion for our students. Students would be free to move in and out of schools for athletics with little or no regard to academics. NIL has changed the landscape of the NCAA and this bill would have even fewer safeguards in place than what the NCAA does when considering possible recruitment or influence from others. Teams eliminated in a playoff one week could transfer to another school and would be considered immediately eligible. At present, NDHSAA has 209 transfers of students. Of the 209, 185 are varsity eligible because they have met the transfer rule requirements. 24 students this year still have participation opportunities, just not at the varsity level.

I am very concerned about the devastating impact this bill would have on our North Dakota high schools.

In short, the bill would drastically change current NDHSAA transfer rules, including:

1. Elimination of any recruitment or undue influence rules or penalties
2. Immediate varsity eligibility granted by simply providing a rental agreement
3. The elimination of the requirement to make a lock, stock, and barrel move before varsity eligibility being granted
4. No limit on the number of times a student transfers and is granted immediate varsity eligibility