

SENATE BILL NO. 285

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Education and Health
on January 27, 2022)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Ebbin)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 22.1-271.9, relating to high school interscholastic athletic competition; prevention of bullying and use of ethnically or racially insensitive expressions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 22.1-271.9 as follows:

§ 22.1-271.9. High school interscholastic athletic competition; prevention of bullying and use of ethnically or racially insensitive expressions.

A. With such funds as may be appropriated by the General Assembly for such purpose pursuant to the general appropriation act, the organization governing high school athletics for public and approved nonboarding nonpublic high schools (the organization) shall develop (i) rules and standards for the prevention of inequities involving bullying or the use of ethnically or racially insensitive expressions during athletic competitions sponsored by the organization's member schools, (ii) procedures for the enforcement of and penalties for the violation of such rules and standards, and (iii) training materials on such rules and standards.

B. Each member school of the organization shall abide by and implement the rules, standards, procedures, and penalties adopted by the organization pursuant to subsection A and shall ensure that each student who will participate in high school interscholastic athletic competition, the parent of each such student, and each individual, whether paid or unpaid, who coaches a team that will participate in high school interscholastic athletic competition receives and reviews the training materials and the penalties for the violations of such rules developed by the organization pursuant to subsection A.

