

HOUSE BILL 1185

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HB 996/18 – W&M

5lr3214

By: **Delegates Nkongolo, Buckel, Chisholm, Grammer, Hartman, Hornberger, Mangione, McComas, Miller, M. Morgan, T. Morgan, Pasteur, Reilly, Roberson, Taylor, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Homeschool Students in Maryland – Right to Play**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing a public high school to allow a student participating in a
4 certain home instruction program to participate in athletic activities under certain
5 circumstances; requiring a public high school to give placement priority to a student
6 enrolled in a certain high school over a student who is not enrolled in the school if
7 certain limitations exist; and generally relating to students in home instruction
8 programs and athletic activities sponsored by public high schools.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 7–118

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Education**

17 **7–118.**

18 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “ATHLETIC ACTIVITY” INCLUDES INTERSCHOLASTIC**
19 **ATHLETICS:**

20 **(1) IN WHICH A STUDENT MAY PARTICIPATE OUTSIDE OF REGULAR**
21 **SCHOOL HOURS; AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) FOR WHICH A STUDENT DOES NOT EARN ACADEMIC CREDIT.**

2 **(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL**
3 **MAY ALLOW A STUDENT WHO IS NOT ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL TO PARTICIPATE IN**
4 **AN ATHLETIC ACTIVITY SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL TO THE SAME EXTENT THAT A**
5 **STUDENT WHO IS ENROLLED IN THE SCHOOL MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE ATHLETIC**
6 **ACTIVITY IF THE STUDENT WHO IS NOT ENROLLED PARTICIPATES IN A HOME**
7 **INSTRUCTION PROGRAM PER COMAR GUIDELINES.**

8 **(C) A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL SHALL GIVE PLACEMENT PRIORITY TO A**
9 **STUDENT ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORING THE**
10 **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY OVER A STUDENT WHO IS NOT ENROLLED IN THE**
11 **PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL IF THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF SPACES AVAILABLE FOR**
12 **STUDENTS IN THE EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY.**

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2025.