

SENATE BILL NO. 373  
INTRODUCED BY R. LAIBLE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROHIBITING A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT OR A PUBLIC K-12 DISTRICT FROM SPENDING PUBLIC FUNDS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN AN ORGANIZATION HAVING JURISDICTION OVER INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES UNLESS THE ORGANIZATION ADOPTS A POLICY THAT ALLOWS CERTAIN NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS TO BE MEMBERS; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**NEW SECTION. Section 1. Membership in organization without participation policy for certain nonpublic schools -- definition.** (1) The trustees of a high school district, as defined in 20-6-101, or a K-12 school district, as defined in 20-6-701, may not expend public funds for membership in an organization having jurisdiction over interscholastic activities, contests, and tournaments unless the organization adopts a policy allowing a nonpublic school to join the organization and, upon the payment of dues, to participate in the organization's sanctioned activities or tournaments. Membership does not grant the nonpublic school access to state funding.

(2) As used in this section, "nonpublic school" means a school that is not accredited by the board of public education under the provisions of 20-7-102 but is accredited by a private accrediting agency.

**NEW SECTION. Section 2. Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 20, chapter 1, part 2, and the provisions of Title 20, chapter 1, part 2, apply to [section 1].

**NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

**NEW SECTION. Section 4. Applicability.** [This act] applies to school fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2003.

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