



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 972

PRINTERS NO. 2886

PRIME SPONSOR: Gleim

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY:

House Bill 972 creates a freestanding act to be known as the Fairness in Women's Sports Act. It would take effect in 60 days.

ANALYSIS:

House Bill 972 requires interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams or sports that are sponsored by a public school entity, a public institution of higher education or any school or institution where students or teams compete against a public school or public institution of higher education be expressly designated as (1) male, men or boys; (2) female, women or girls; or (3) coed or mixed. Athletic teams or sports designated for females, women or girls may not be open to students of the male sex.

A government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or an athletic association or organization may not entertain a complaint, open an investigation, or take any other adverse action against a school or institution of higher education for maintaining separate interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural or club athletic teams or sports for female students.

A student who is deprived of an athletic opportunity or who suffers a direct or indirect harm because of a known violation of this law may bring a cause of action for injunctive relief, damages, psychological, emotional and physical harm suffered, attorney fees and costs, and any other relief available under law against the school or institution of higher education.

A student who is subject to retaliation or other adverse action by a school, institution of higher education or athletic association or organization as a result of reporting a violation of this law to an employee or representative of the school, institution or athletic association or organization or to any Federal or State agency with oversight of schools or institutions of higher education in Pennsylvania may bring a cause of action for injunctive relief, damages, attorney fees and costs and any other relief available under law against the school, institution or athletic association or organization.

A school or institution of higher education that suffers direct or indirect harm as a result of a violation of this law may bring a cause of action for injunctive relief, damages and any other relief available under law against the government entity, licensing or accrediting organization or athletic association or organization.

A person may not bring a civil action under this law more than two years after the day on which the harm underlying the civil action occurs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on Commonwealth funds.

PREPARED BY: Jeff Miller
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 12, 2022

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.