

**HB 2817 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Rep. Alonso Leon

**House Committee On Education**

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**Action Date:** 03/25/21

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 9-0-1-0

**Yeas:** 9 - Alonso Leon, Hudson, Neron, Reardon, Ruiz, Smith DB, Sollman, Weber, Wright

**Exc:** 1 - Owens

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Lisa Gezelter, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/11, 3/25

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Requires that schools, districts, and associations allow students up to age 19, participating in general educational development (GED) programs, to participate in interscholastic activities if they have taken and passed at least one practice test. Takes effect for the 2021-2022 school year. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2021.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Benefits of participation in extracurricular activities
- Needs of students enrolled in GED programs
- Age and residency requirements

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

Defines GED program. Modifies the definition of GED student to include only those up to age 19 for purposes of participation in interscholastic activities. Requires that GED student pass at least one practice test prior to participating in interscholastic activity.

**BACKGROUND:**

State law currently requires that homeschool and charter school students be allowed to participate in interscholastic activities at the neighborhood schools where they live.

House Bill 2817 A adds GED students up to age 19 who have taken and passed at least one practice exam to the list of students who, though not necessarily attending their neighborhood school, may participate in interscholastic activities there.