

## HB221 INTRODUCED



1 HB221  
2 AR8XM77-1  
3 By Representative Paramore  
4 RFD: Education Policy  
5 First Read: 14-Jan-26



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, public K-12 schools have the sole authority for selecting which media organizations may broadcast regular season sporting events.

This bill would expand that authority to include the broadcast of all post regular season sporting events.

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

Relating to education; to amend Section 16-1-53, Code of Alabama 1975; to further provide for the sole authority of a public K-12 school to determine which media organizations may broadcast post regular season sporting events.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 16-1-53, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§16-1-53

(a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) BROADCAST. To transmit or exhibit video ~~or~~ audio, or photographs in any medium or manner accessible by



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televisions, radios, computers, or other Internet enabled devices.

(2) COVER. To observe for reporting purposes and conduct broadcasts of the event being reported.

(3) MEDIA ORGANIZATION. A newspaper, news wire, radio station, television station, television network, website, or other organization that publishes or broadcasts, at regular intervals, print, digital, or audio media.

(b) (1) ~~No~~ Except as provided in subdivision (2), no individual, firm, corporation, or association shall interfere with or restrict in any manner the ability of media organizations to cover or broadcast, in any form or format, regular season and post regular season sporting events, including, without limitation, all playoffs and championships involving K-12 schools.

(2) Each school, grades K through 12, shall have the sole authority to determine which media organization or media organizations are permitted to cover or broadcast a regular season and post regular season sporting event, including, without limitation, all playoffs and championships, and to contract for the broadcast of regular and post regular season sporting events involving that school."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2026.