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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL SPORTS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that home-schooled  
2 students are part of the diverse fabric that make up our  
3 educational system in Hawaii. In 2016, nearly three thousand  
4 students in Hawaii were home-schooled. Parents who choose to  
5 home-school their children are responsible for their child's  
6 total educational program, including athletics and other  
7 extracurricular activities. Under Hawaii law, home-schooled  
8 students do not have the right to participate in public school  
9 activities, including sports. Although individual schools and  
10 complex areas have the authority to allow home-schooled students  
11 to participate in its activities, policies vary.

12           It is imperative for the State to ensure that all home-  
13 schooled students have equitable opportunities to succeed.  
14 Allowing home-schooled, high school-age students to participate  
15 in individual sports as unattached athletes is an important way  
16 in which the State can move toward equity in education.



1           The purpose of this Act is to allow home-schooled, high  
2 school-age students to participate as unattached competitors in  
3 individual sports available to the public school that the  
4 student would otherwise be required to attend.

5           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
7 and to read as follows:

8           "§302A-           Home school students; individual sports;  
9 participation. (a) Every high school student in the ninth,  
10 tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade who:

11           (1) Is home-schooled in accordance with section 302A-1132;  
12           and

13           (2) Meets the participation requirements and restrictions  
14           for an individual sport, including maintaining  
15           appropriate grade point averages, paying appropriate  
16           fees, and signing a release and express assumption of  
17           risk waiver; provided that the requirements or  
18           restrictions of the release shall not be inconsistent  
19           with this section;

20 shall be allowed to participate as an unattached competitor in  
21 any individual sport at athletic events sanctioned by an



1 educational athletic organization and available to the public  
2 school that the student would otherwise be required to attend.

3 (b) The department may adopt rules to effectuate this  
4 section and provide procedures by which an eligible student may  
5 apply to participate in individual sports.

6 (c) As used in this section, "individual sport" means a  
7 school-authorized sport that does not require team  
8 participation, including but not limited to air riflery,  
9 bowling, cross country, diving, esports, golf, judo, swimming,  
10 tennis, track and field, and wrestling."

11 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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# H.B. NO. 2149

**Report Title:**

Home Schooling; High School; Individual Sports; Participation

**Description:**

Allows home-schooled, high school-age students to participate as unattached competitors in individual sports available to the public school that the student would otherwise be required to attend.

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