SB99

57C266M-1

By Senators Bell, Gudger, Kelley, Elliott, Smitherman, Stewart, Figures, Weaver, Roberts, Reed, Sessions, Kitchens, Chesteen, Livingston

RFD: Education Policy

First Read: 14-Feb-24

SYNOPSIS:

This bill would require certain entities that determine eligibility for athletes participating in high school sports and derive funding from school sporting events to be subject to a one-time audit.

This bill would require the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts to audit any entity subject to this act.

This bill would require the entity subject to the audit to report the audit findings and measures to address any adverse findings to a temporary legislative committee.

This bill would establish a temporary legislative committee to hear the findings of the audit as reported by the entity subject to the audit.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to school sports; to require a one-time audit of certain high school athletic associations by the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts; to establish a temporary legislative committee to hear the findings of the audit as

reported by the association subject to the audit; and to provide for the repeal of this act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) For purposes of this section, "entity" means any entity that makes a determination about the eligibility of high school athletes to participate in athletic events and derives funding by hosting high school athletic events on school property.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2025, the Department of Examiners of Public Accounts shall conduct an audit of the books and accounts of any entity described in subsection (a). The department shall audit, review, and otherwise investigate the receipts and disbursement of funds of the entity in the same manner as audits are performed on agencies and departments of the state.

(c) Not more than 30 days after receipt of the audit, the entity subject to the audit shall prepare a report of the audit findings along with any measures the entity has taken or intends to take, along with a timeline for completing such measures, to address any shortcomings or issues revealed pursuant to the audit. The entity shall submit the report to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(d) After receiving the audit report described in subsection (c), the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall appoint a committee comprised of five members of the House of Representatives, two of which are members of the minority

party, and five members of the Senate, two of which are members of the minority party, and jointly call a meeting of the committee.

(e) The committee shall hold the meeting, at which time the entity subject to the audit shall appear before the committee and present its findings.

(f) Upon completion of the meeting, the committee shall be dissolved.

(g) This section is repealed on January 1, 2026.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1, 2024.