By: Senator(s) McMahan, Robinson To: Education

## COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL NO. 2152

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROPERTY INTEREST IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS PARTICIPATION FOR STUDENT ATHLETES ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS; TO GUARANTEE DUE PROCESS, INCLUDING NOTICE, AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD AND THE RIGHT TO APPEAL, BEFORE A STUDENT 5 ATHLETE MAY BE SUSPENDED, EXPELLED OR OTHERWISE REMOVED FROM SUCH 6 PARTICIPATION; TO DIRECT THE MISSISSIPPI HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES 7 ASSOCIATION (MHSAA), IN CONSULTATION WITH THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO 8 9 PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS ACT, INCLUDING 10 ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND APPEAL PROCESSES ALLOWING THE PARTICIPATION OF LEGAL COUNSEL; AND FOR 11 12 RELATED PURPOSES. 13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: **SECTION 1.** (1) Student athletes enrolled in a public

14 secondary school who meet all eligibility requirements established 15 16 by the Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA) and their school shall have a property interest in their participation 17 18 in interscholastic athletics. This property interest shall not constitute a guarantee of a particular position, role or level of 19 20 participation within a team or sport but ensures the right to due process under the Constitution of the United States and the 21 22 Constitution of the State of Mississippi.

23	(2) A student athlete shall not be suspended, expelled or
24	otherwise removed from participation in interscholastic athletics
25	without notice, an opportunity to be heard, and the right to
26	appeal any adverse decision to MHSAA

- 27 (3) MHSAA, in consultation with the Office of the Secretary
  28 of State and the Office of the Attorney General, shall promulgate
  29 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section,
  30 including, but not limited to, eligibility standards, disciplinary
  31 procedures and appeal processes allowing the participation of
  32 legal counsel.
- 33 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 34 and after July 1, 2026, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2026.