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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

**H.B. 661**  
**136<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

## **Fiscal Note & Local Impact Statement**

[Click here for H.B. 661's Bill Analysis](#)

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Bird and Odioso

**Local Impact Statement Procedure Required:** No

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### **Highlights**

- The bill's prohibition on name, image, and likeness compensation agreements for middle and high school students may reduce or eliminate any compliance-related costs for school districts and other public schools.

### **Detailed Analysis**

The bill prohibits a middle or high school student-athlete from earning compensation related to the student-athlete's name, image, or likeness (NIL) if the compensation is connected to participation in interscholastic athletics or to the student-athlete's position on an interscholastic athletics team. School districts, other public schools, and private schools are prohibited from permitting student-athletes who earn prohibited compensation to participate in interscholastic athletics in the sport to which the compensation relates. The Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) will investigate alleged violations of the bill and allow student-athletes to appeal adverse determinations.

The bill is in response to the November 2025 rule change approved by OHSAA member schools allowing student-athletes to earn NIL compensation under certain circumstances, reversing the Association's prior prohibition on NIL-related compensation. School districts and other public schools may incur some costs to facilitate compliance with the current OHSAA rules. According to OHSAA, districts and schools are responsible for (1) informing and educating students and coaches on NIL rule changes, (2) educating the school community about the current rule's prohibition on facilitating an NIL or personal branding rights agreement to help secure the enrollment of a prospective student and penalties for a violation of that prohibition, and

(3) reporting alleged violations of NIL rules to OHSAA.<sup>1</sup> The rules require students with an NIL agreement to report the agreement to OHSAA, not their school. OHSAA will investigate alleged violations.

The bill may reduce or eliminate any NIL-related compliance costs for school districts and other public schools. As a point of reference, the number of middle or high school students with NIL agreements is very small but may grow over time. In mid-December 2025, roughly one month after the rule went into effect, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported, based on information supplied by OHSAA, that 11 students had disclosed agreements.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See OHSAA’s infographic on [Name, Image and Likeness: What You Need to Know in Ohio \(PDF\)](#), which is available on the NIL Resource Center on OHSAA’s website: [ohsaa.org/Eligibility/NIL-Resource-Center](https://ohsaa.org/Eligibility/NIL-Resource-Center).

<sup>2</sup> Purpura, Dave. “How many Ohio high school student-athletes have NIL deals?” *Columbus Dispatch*, December 19, 2025.