



ALAN WILSON
ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 20, 2024

Dr. Jerome P. Singleton
Commissioner
S.C. Highschool League
P.O. Box 211575
Columbia, SC 29221

Dear Dr. Singleton:

Attorney General Alan Wilson has referred your letter to the Opinions section. Your letter states the following:

As Commissioner of the South Carolina High School League ("League"), I am writing to request an advisory opinion regarding the application of 2024-2025 budget, Proviso 1.40, and Budget Decision 1.119, with respect to the following:

[REDACTED]

...

(3)(a) an appeals process in which appeals of the association, body, or entity are made to a disinterested third-body appellate panel which consists of seven members who serve four year terms, with one person appointed by the delegation of each congressional

[REDACTED]

enrollment for grades nine through twelve does not exceed two

[REDACTED]

Budget Proviso 1.118 (emphasis added).

[REDACTED]

Sanctions Stated by an Appeal

The first change in the provision added by Proposition 130 is that the "first appeal" is now the "first appeal" and the "second appeal" is now the "second appeal".

[REDACTED]

the determination of a sanction made by the association pending the outcome of the appeal." I would like to know if this requirement of a stay would apply to the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

of a fine given the variability of costs depending on the individual circumstances of the cancellation.

For example, if the forfeiting team is the home team, there would be very few costs incurred by visiting team, provided the forfeit occurs before the day of the game. The visiting team aggrieved by the forfeit would not have incurred costs for travel, tickets, or concessions. On the other hand, if the forfeiting team is the visiting team, the amount of ticket sales and concession sales would be greatly affected. We

[REDACTED]

also would like to avoid the possibility of a home team that receives a forfeit from

[REDACTED]

reviewed. For example, the League could use any number of dates for determining whether a private school student meets the criteria of attending an independent school below this required enrollment count, such as:

- The first day of school for the independent school
- The first day of fall, winter, and spring sports seasons for the public school
- The first contact of a particular student with a particular public school

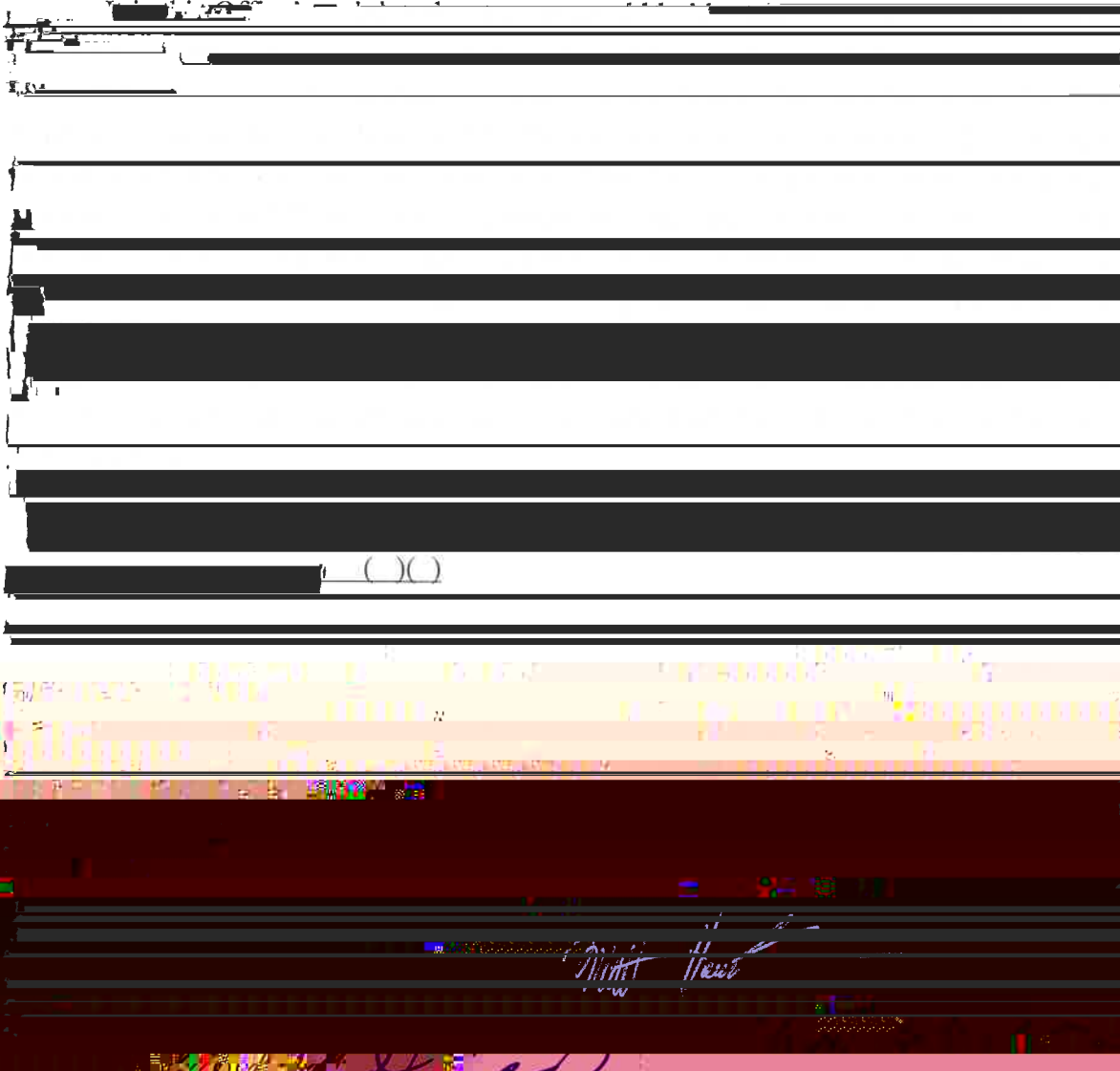
[REDACTED]

- The date on which the private school student notifies the superintendent of the public school district in writing of his intent to try out for a particular sport at the public school (required by Rule 1-110)

[REDACTED]

plain language does not demonstrate legislative intent regarding classifications of sanctions. Regardless of the severity of a sanction, once an appeal is filed, the proviso apparently requires treating all sanctions as stayed.

II. Fines of Forfeited Games, FY 2024-25 Budget Proviso 1.49(A)(5)



REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY

Robert D Cook
Solicitor General