

By Representative Sobel

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to high school athletics;  
3           amending s. 232.61, F.S.; requiring the Florida  
4           High School Activities Association to adopt  
5           bylaws which require students participating in  
6           high school athletic competition or who are  
7           candidates for a high school athletic team to  
8           satisfactorily pass a physical examination  
9           prior to participating in athletic competition  
10          or engaging in practice with an athletic team;  
11          providing requirements with respect to such  
12          examinations; providing an effective date.

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14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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16           Section 1. Section 232.61, Florida Statutes, is  
17 amended to read:18           232.61 Governing organization for athletics; adoption  
19 of bylaws.--

20           (1) The organization shall adopt bylaws that, unless  
21 specifically provided by statute, establish eligibility  
22 requirements for all students who participate in high school  
23 athletic competition in its member schools. The bylaws  
24 governing residence and transfer shall allow the student to be  
25 eligible in the school in which he or she first enrolls each  
26 school year, or makes himself or herself a candidate for an  
27 athletic team by engaging in a practice prior to enrolling in  
28 any member school. The student shall be eligible in that  
29 school so long as he or she remains enrolled in that school.  
30 Subsequent eligibility shall be determined and enforced  
31 through the organization's bylaws. Where the student lives,

1 with whom the student lives, or which school the student  
2 attended the previous year shall not be a factor in  
3 determining eligibility.

4 (2) The organization shall ~~also~~ adopt bylaws that  
5 specifically prohibit the recruiting of students for athletic  
6 purposes. The bylaws shall prescribe penalties and an appeals  
7 process for athletic recruiting violations.

8 (3) The organization shall adopt bylaws that require  
9 all students participating in athletic competition or who are  
10 candidates for an athletic team to satisfactorily pass a  
11 complete physical examination prior to participating in high  
12 school athletic competition or engaging in practice with an  
13 athletic team. Such physical examination must be administered  
14 by a practicing physician licensed under the provisions of  
15 chapter 458 or chapter 459 and in good standing with the Board  
16 of Medicine. Physical examinations conducted by a chiropractic  
17 physician licensed under chapter 460, a podiatric physician  
18 licensed under chapter 461, an optometrist licensed under  
19 chapter 463, or a dentist licensed under chapter 466 shall not  
20 be acceptable for purposes of satisfying the requirements of  
21 this paragraph. The bylaws shall establish requirements for  
22 passing the physical examination, which shall include minimum  
23 standards for the physical capabilities necessary for  
24 participation in high school athletic competition. Physicians  
25 administering physical examinations pursuant to this section  
26 must know the minimum standards established by the  
27 organization and certify that the student meets the standards.  
28 Results of such physical examination must be provided to the  
29 athletic department of the student's high school. No student  
30 shall be eligible to participate in any athletic competition  
31 or engage in practice with an athletic team until the results

1 of the physical examination verifying that the student has  
2 satisfactorily passed the examination have been received and  
3 approved by the athletic department.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

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7 HOUSE SUMMARY

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9 Requires the Florida High School Activities Association,  
10 as the governing nonprofit organization of athletics in  
11 Florida public schools, to adopt bylaws which require  
12 students participating in high school athletic  
13 competition or who are candidates for a high school  
14 athletic team to satisfactorily pass a complete physical  
15 examination prior to participating in athletic  
16 competition or engaging in practice with an athletic  
17 team. Provides requirements with respect to such  
18 examinations.  
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