

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Hill

304-1967-03

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to student athletes; creating
s. 877.135, F.S.; prohibiting the giving or
offering of anything of monetary value to any
person for the purpose of encouraging a student
athlete to attend or not attend certain
academic institutions, to become a professional
athlete, or to endorse products or commercial
establishments; providing exceptions; providing
penalties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 877.135, Florida Statutes, is
created to read:

877.135 Corrupting or attempting to corrupt student
athletes.--

(1) Whoever gives or offers anything of monetary value
to any person with the intent of encouraging a high school or
middle school student athlete residing in this state to attend
or not attend a particular academic institution, to become a
professional athlete, or to endorse a product or commercial
establishment commits a misdemeanor of the second degree,
punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or by a fine not to
exceed the larger of \$1,000 or three times the value of the
inducement given or offered. Nothing herein shall prohibit the
prosecution of such person under any other laws.

(2) The provisions of this section shall not apply to
the offering of a scholarship by the academic institution or
the provision of items and expenses specifically permitted
under the rules and regulations governing the recruitment of

1 athletes by the academic institution. The provisions of this
2 section shall also not apply to any offer of employment by a
3 professional sports team or organization that has provided the
4 athlete with a written statement outlining any limitations
5 which the acceptance of such offer will place on the amateur
6 career of such athlete.

7 (3) The provisions of this section shall not apply to
8 any item of monetary value given to a student athlete by a
9 spouse, parent, sibling, grandparent, or guardian of such
10 student athlete.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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13 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
15 SENATE BILL 1788

16 Prohibits offering or giving anything of monetary value to any
17 person in order to persuade a student athlete to go to a
18 certain academic institution, become a professional, or make
endorsements.

19 Provides that the section's restrictions apply to offers or
20 gifts for middle school or high school athletes residing in
Florida.

21 Provides that the section's restrictions do not apply to items
22 of monetary value given to a student athlete by a spouse,
23 parent, sibling, grandparent, or guardian of such student
athlete.