



HB 0389

2003

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30

A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to student athletes; creating s. 877.135,  
 F.S.; prohibiting the giving or offering of inducements to  
 certain student athletes for the purpose of encouraging  
 such 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 any inducement to a high  
 school or middle school athlete with the intent of encouraging  
 such athlete 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 athletes by  
 the academic institution. The provisions of this section shall



HB 0389

2003

31 also not apply to any offer of employment by a professional  
32 sports team or organization that has provided the athlete with a  
33 written statement outlining any limitations which the acceptance  
34 of such offer will place on the amateur career of such athlete.

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