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A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to athletic trainers; amending s. 468.701,  
 F.S.; revising definitions; expanding the scope of  
 "athletic activity" and "athletic training"; amending s.  
 468.707, F.S.; revising licensure requirements; removing a  
 provision requiring specific coursework; removing a  
 provision requiring standard first aid certification;  
 removing a provision requiring supervised athletic  
 training experience; removing an obsolete provision;  
 amending s. 468.711, F.S.; removing a provision requiring  
 continuing education in standard first aid; amending s.  
 468.717, F.S.; revising a ground for punishment relating  
 to practicing without a license; providing penalties;  
 amending s. 468.723, F.S.; removing an exemption provision  
 relating to teacher apprentice trainers and teacher  
 athletic trainers; amending s. 1012.46, F.S.; providing  
 for the replacement of teacher athletic trainers by  
 athletic trainers licensed pursuant to part XIII of ch.  
 468; providing that a first responder may not hold himself  
 or herself out as an athletic trainer if not licensed  
 pursuant to part XIII of ch. 468; providing an effective  
 date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (2) and (5) of section 468.701,  
 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
 468.701 Definitions.--As used in this part, the term:

29           (2) "Athletic activity" means the participation in an  
 30 activity, ~~conducted by an educational institution, a~~  
 31 ~~professional athletic organization, or an amateur athletic~~  
 32 ~~organization,~~ involving exercises, sports, games, or recreation  
 33 requiring any of the physical attributes of strength, agility,  
 34 flexibility, range of motion, speed, and stamina.

35           (5) "Athletic training" means the recognition, prevention,  
 36 ~~and treatment,~~ and rehabilitation of athletic injuries.

37           Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 468.707, Florida  
 38 Statutes, is amended to read:

39           468.707 Licensure by examination; requirements.--

40           (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as an athletic  
 41 trainer shall apply to the department on a form approved by the  
 42 department.

43           ~~(a)~~ The department shall license each applicant who:

44           (a)1. Has completed the application form and remitted the  
 45 required fees.

46           (b)2. Is at least 21 years of age.

47           (c)3. Has obtained a baccalaureate degree from a college  
 48 or university accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and  
 49 approved by the United States Department of Education or the  
 50 Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation, or  
 51 approved by the board.

52           ~~4. Has completed coursework from a college or university~~  
 53 ~~accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and approved by~~  
 54 ~~the United States Department of Education or the Commission on~~  
 55 ~~Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation, or approved by the~~  
 56 ~~board, in each of the following areas, as provided by rule:~~

57 ~~health, human anatomy, kinesiology/biomechanics, human~~  
 58 ~~physiology, physiology of exercise, basic athletic training, and~~  
 59 ~~advanced athletic training.~~

60 (d)5. Has current certification in ~~standard first aid and~~  
 61 cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red  
 62 Cross or an equivalent certification as determined by the board.

63 ~~6. Has, within 2 of the preceding 5 years, attained a~~  
 64 ~~minimum of 800 hours of athletic training experience under the~~  
 65 ~~direct supervision of a licensed athletic trainer or an athletic~~  
 66 ~~trainer certified by the National Athletic Trainers' Association~~  
 67 ~~or a comparable national athletic standards organization.~~

68 (e)7. Has passed an examination administered or approved  
 69 by the board.

70 ~~(b) The department shall also license each applicant who:~~

71 ~~1. Has completed the application form and remitted the~~  
 72 ~~required fees no later than October 1, 1996.~~

73 ~~2. Is at least 21 years of age.~~

74 ~~3. Has current certification in standard first aid and~~  
 75 ~~cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red~~  
 76 ~~Cross or an equivalent certification as determined by the board.~~

77 ~~4.a. Has practiced athletic training for at least 3 of the~~  
 78 ~~5 years preceding application; or~~

79 ~~b. Is currently certified by the National Athletic~~  
 80 ~~Trainers' Association or a comparable national athletic~~  
 81 ~~standards organization.~~

82 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 468.711, Florida  
 83 Statutes, is amended to read:

84 468.711 Renewal of license; continuing education.--

85 (2) The board may, by rule, prescribe continuing education  
 86 requirements, not to exceed 24 hours biennially. The criteria  
 87 for continuing education shall be approved by the board and  
 88 shall include certification in ~~4 hours in standard first aid and~~  
 89 cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red  
 90 Cross or equivalent training as determined by the board.

91 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 468.717, Florida  
 92 Statutes, is amended to read:

93 468.717 Violations and penalties.--Each of the following  
 94 acts constitutes a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable  
 95 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083:

96 (1) Practicing athletic training ~~for compensation~~ without  
 97 holding an active license under this part.

98 Section 5. Section 468.723, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 99 to read:

100 468.723 Exemptions.--Nothing in this part shall be  
 101 construed as preventing or restricting:

102 (1) The professional practice of a licensee of the  
 103 department who is acting within the scope of such practice.

104 (2) An athletic training student ~~A student athletic~~  
 105 ~~trainer~~ acting under the direct supervision of a licensed  
 106 athletic trainer.

107 ~~(3) A person employed as a teacher apprentice trainer I, a~~  
 108 ~~teacher apprentice trainer II, or a teacher athletic trainer~~  
 109 ~~under s. 1012.46.~~

110 (3)(4) A person from administering standard first aid  
 111 treatment to an athlete.

112        (4)~~(5)~~ A person licensed under chapter 548, provided such  
 113 person is acting within the scope of such license.

114        (5)~~(6)~~ A person providing personal training instruction  
 115 for exercise, aerobics, or weightlifting, if the person does not  
 116 represent himself or herself as able to provide "athletic  
 117 trainer" services and if any recognition or treatment of  
 118 injuries is limited to the provision of first aid.

119        Section 6. Section 1012.46, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 120 to read:

121        1012.46 Athletic trainers.--

122        (1) School districts may establish and implement an  
 123 athletic injuries prevention and treatment program. Central to  
 124 this program should be the employment and availability of  
 125 persons trained in the prevention and treatment of physical  
 126 injuries which may occur during athletic activities. The program  
 127 should reflect opportunities for progressive advancement and  
 128 compensation in employment as provided in subsection (2) and  
 129 meet certain other minimum standards developed by the Department  
 130 of Education. The goal of the Legislature is to have school  
 131 districts employ and have available a full-time ~~teacher~~ athletic  
 132 trainer in each high school in the state.

133        (2) To the extent practicable, a school district program  
 134 should include the following employment classification and  
 135 advancement scheme:

136        (a) First responder.--To qualify as a first responder, a  
 137 person must possess a professional, temporary, part-time,  
 138 adjunct, or substitute certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56, be  
 139 certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid, and have

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140 15 semester hours in courses such as care and prevention of  
141 athletic injuries, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, counseling,  
142 and other similar courses approved by the Commissioner of  
143 Education. This person may only administer first aid and similar  
144 care and shall not hold himself or herself out to the school  
145 district or public as an athletic trainer if he or she is not  
146 licensed under part XIII of chapter 468.

147 (b) ~~Teacher~~ Athletic trainer.--To qualify as an ~~a teacher~~  
148 athletic trainer, a person must be licensed under part XIII of  
149 chapter 468. An athletic trainer may be utilized by the school  
150 district as a teacher if he or she possesses ~~possess~~ a  
151 professional, temporary, part-time, adjunct, or substitute  
152 certificate pursuant to s. 1012.35, s. 1012.56 or s. 1012.57~~7~~  
153 ~~and be licensed as required by part XIII of chapter 468.~~

154 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.