

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to athletic trainers; amending s. 468.707, F.S.; revising the requirements for licensure as an athletic trainer; amending s. 468.711, F.S.; revising the criteria for continuing education in athletic training; amending s. 468.723, F.S.; providing that a person employed as an apprentice trainer or athletic trainer is not exempt from part XIII of ch. 468, F.S.; amending s. 1012.46, F.S.; deleting the classification of first responder in a school district's athletic injuries prevention and treatment program; requiring that an athletic trainer employed by a school district be licensed as an athletic trainer; deleting a requirement that such person possess certain certification as an educator; providing an effective date.

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

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

468.707 Licensure by examination; requirements.--

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

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

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

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

29 ~~(c)3-~~ Has obtained a baccalaureate degree from a college
 30 or university accredited by an accrediting agency recognized and
 31 approved by the United States Department of Education or the
 32 Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation, or
 33 approved by the board.

34 ~~(d)4-~~ Has completed an approved athletic training
 35 curriculum coursework from a college or university accredited by
 36 an accrediting agency recognized and approved by the United
 37 States Department of Education or the Commission on Recognition
 38 of Postsecondary Accreditation, or approved by the board, ~~in~~
 39 ~~each of the following areas, as provided by rule: health, human~~
 40 ~~anatomy, kinesiology/biomechanics, human physiology, physiology~~
 41 ~~of exercise, basic athletic training, and advanced athletic~~
 42 ~~training.~~

43 ~~(e)5-~~ Has current certification in ~~standard first aid and~~
 44 ~~cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation from the American Red~~
 45 ~~Cross or an equivalent certification as determined by the board.~~

46 ~~6-~~ ~~Has, within 2 of the preceding 5 years, attained a~~
 47 ~~minimum of 800 hours of athletic training experience under the~~
 48 ~~direct supervision of a licensed athletic trainer or an athletic~~
 49 ~~trainer certified by the National Athletic Trainers' Association~~
 50 ~~or a comparable national athletic standards organization.~~

51 ~~(f)7-~~ Has passed an examination administered or approved
 52 by the board.

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

54 ~~1-~~ ~~Has completed the application form and remitted the~~
 55 ~~required fees no later than October 1, 1996.~~

56 ~~2-~~ ~~Is at least 21 years of age.~~

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

60 ~~4.a. Has practiced athletic training for at least 3 of the~~
61 ~~5 years preceding application; or~~

62 ~~b. Is currently certified by the National Athletic~~
63 ~~Trainers' Association or a comparable national athletic~~
64 ~~standards organization.~~

65 Section 2. Section 468.711, Florida Statutes, is amended
66 to read:

67 468.711 Renewal of license; continuing education.--

68 (1) The department shall renew a license upon receipt of
69 the renewal application and fee, provided the applicant is in
70 compliance with the provisions of this part, chapter 456, and
71 rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

72 (2) The board may, by rule, prescribe continuing education
73 requirements, not to exceed 24 hours biennially. The criteria
74 for continuing education shall be approved by the board and
75 shall include a current certificate in ~~include 4 hours in~~
76 ~~standard first aid and~~ cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation
77 from the American Red Cross or equivalent training as determined
78 by the board.

79 (3) Pursuant to the requirements of s. 456.034, each
80 licensee shall complete a continuing education course on human
81 immunodeficiency virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome
82 as part of biennial relicensure.

83 Section 3. Section 468.723, Florida Statutes, is amended
84 to read:

85 468.723 Exemptions.--~~Nothing in~~ This part does not prevent
 86 or restrict ~~shall be construed as preventing or restricting:~~

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

89 (2) An athletic training A student ~~athletic trainer~~ acting
 90 under the direct supervision of a licensed athletic trainer.

91 ~~(3) A person employed as a teacher apprentice trainer I, a~~
 92 ~~teacher apprentice trainer II, or a teacher athletic trainer~~
 93 ~~under s. 1012.46.~~

94 (3)~~(4)~~ A person from administering standard first aid
 95 treatment to an athlete.

96 (4)~~(5)~~ A person licensed under chapter 548, provided such
 97 person is acting within the scope of such license.

98 (5)~~(6)~~ A person providing personal training instruction
 99 for exercise, aerobics, or weightlifting, if the person does not
 100 represent himself or herself as able to provide "athletic
 101 trainer" services and if any recognition or treatment of
 102 injuries is limited to the provision of first aid.

103 Section 4. Section 1012.46, Florida Statutes, is amended
 104 to read:

105 1012.46 Athletic trainers.--

106 (1) School districts may establish and implement an
 107 athletic injuries prevention and treatment program. Central to
 108 this program should be the employment and availability of
 109 persons trained in the prevention and treatment of physical
 110 injuries that ~~which~~ may occur during athletic activities. The
 111 program should reflect opportunities for progressive advancement
 112 and compensation in employment as provided in subsection (2) and

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113 meet certain other minimum standards developed by the Department
114 of Education. The goal of the Legislature is to have school
115 districts employ and have available a full-time ~~teacher~~ athletic
116 trainer in each high school in the state.

117 ~~(2) To the extent practicable, a school district program~~
118 ~~should include the following employment classification and~~
119 ~~advancement scheme.~~

120 ~~(a) First responder. To qualify as a first responder, a~~
121 ~~person must possess a professional, temporary, part time,~~
122 ~~adjunct, or substitute certificate pursuant to s. 1012.56, be~~
123 ~~certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid, and have~~
124 ~~15 semester hours in courses such as care and prevention of~~
125 ~~athletic injuries, anatomy, physiology, nutrition, counseling,~~
126 ~~and other similar courses approved by the Commissioner of~~
127 ~~Education. This person may only administer first aid and similar~~
128 ~~care.~~

129 ~~(2)(b) Teacher athletic trainer.~~—To qualify as an a
130 ~~teacher~~ athletic trainer, a person must be licensed as required
131 by part XIII of chapter 468 and may possess a professional,
132 temporary, part-time, adjunct, or substitute certificate
133 pursuant to s. 1012.35, s. 1012.56, or s. 1012.57, ~~and be~~
134 ~~licensed as required by part XIII of chapter 468.~~

135 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.