

By the Committees on Education Pre-K - 12 Appropriations; and
Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Haridopolos

602-05634-09

20092066c2

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to certification of public school
3 athletic coaches; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.; providing
4 that completion of a sports safety course shall meet
5 certain certification requirements; requiring the
6 sports safety course to be approved by the Florida
7 High School Athletic Association Board of Directors
8 and to meet specified requirements; providing an
9 effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 1012.55, Florida
14 Statutes, is amended to read:

15 1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.—

16 (2) (a) Each person who is employed and renders service as
17 an athletic coach in any public school in any district of this
18 state shall hold a valid temporary or professional certificate
19 or an athletic coaching certificate. The athletic coaching
20 certificate may be used for either part-time or full-time
21 positions. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any
22 athletic coach who voluntarily renders service and who is not
23 employed by any public school district of this state.

24 (b) Completion of a sports safety course shall count for 6
25 hours of required district in-service instruction for athletic
26 coaching certification if the course is approved by the Florida
27 High School Athletic Association Board of Directors and meets
28 the following requirements:

29 1. The course consists of at least eight modules.

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30 2. The course immediately provides an individual with a
31 "merit" certificate at the time of successful completion.

32 3. The course is delivered through hands-on and online
33 teaching methods.

34 4. A hands-on course is taught by a current Board of
35 Certification-certified and state-licensed athletic trainer or a
36 member of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

37 5. Hands-on course material is less than 120 pages.

38 6. The course covers sports safety specifically, excluding
39 coaching principles and procedures for cardiopulmonary
40 resuscitation.

41 7. The course is authored or approved by at least 10 health
42 care professionals, including doctors of medicine, doctors of
43 osteopathy, registered nurses, physical therapists, and
44 certified athletic trainers.

45 8. The course is revised and reviewed for updates at least
46 once every 30 months.

47 9. The course is available to the general public for a
48 retail price under \$50.

49 10. Each course examination is automated and taken online
50 with a score of 80 percent or better for successful completion.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.