



535120

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/03/2012	.	
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The Committee on Budget (Flores) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Paragraphs (e), (f), and (g) are added to
subsection (2) of section 943.0438, Florida Statutes, to read:

943.0438 Athletic coaches for independent sanctioning
authorities.—

(2) An independent sanctioning authority shall:

(e) Adopt guidelines to educate athletic coaches,
officials, administrators, and youth athletes and their parents
or guardians of the nature and risk of concussion and head
injury.



535120

14 (f) Adopt bylaws or policies that require the parent or
15 guardian of a youth who is participating in athletic competition
16 or who is a candidate for an athletic team to sign and return an
17 informed consent that explains the nature and risk of concussion
18 and head injury, including the risk of continuing to play after
19 concussion or head injury, each year before participating in
20 athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout,
21 workout, or other physical activity associated with the youth's
22 candidacy for an athletic team.

23 (g) Adopt bylaws or policies that require each youth
24 athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head
25 injury in a practice or competition to be immediately removed
26 from the activity. A youth athlete who has been removed from an
27 activity may not return to practice or competition until the
28 youth submits to the athletic coach a written medical clearance
29 to return stating that the youth athlete no longer exhibits
30 signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or
31 other head injury. Medical clearance must be authorized by the
32 appropriate health care practitioner trained in the diagnosis,
33 evaluation, and management of concussions as defined by the
34 Sports Medicine Advisory Committee of the Florida High School
35 Athletic Association.

36 Section 2. Paragraphs (e), (f), (g), and (h) are added to
37 subsection (2) of section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, to read:

38 1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

39 (2) ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, POLICIES, OR GUIDELINES.—

40 (e) The organization shall adopt guidelines to educate
41 athletic coaches, officials, administrators, and student
42 athletes and their parents of the nature and risk of concussion



535120

43 and head injury.

44 (f) The organization shall adopt bylaws or policies that
45 require the parent of a student who is participating in
46 interscholastic athletic competition or who is a candidate for
47 an interscholastic athletic team to sign and return an informed
48 consent that explains the nature and risk of concussion and head
49 injury, including the risk of continuing to play after
50 concussion or head injury, each year before participating in
51 interscholastic athletic competition or engaging in any
52 practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated
53 with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic
54 team.

55 (g) The organization shall adopt bylaws or policies that
56 require each student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a
57 concussion or head injury in a practice or competition to be
58 immediately removed from the activity. A student athlete who has
59 been removed from an activity may not return to practice or
60 competition until the student submits to the school a written
61 medical clearance to return stating that the student athlete no
62 longer exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a
63 concussion or other head injury. Medical clearance must be
64 authorized by the appropriate health care practitioner trained
65 in the diagnosis, evaluation, and management of concussions as
66 defined by the Sports Medicine Advisory Committee of the Florida
67 High School Athletic Association.

68 (h) The organization shall adopt bylaws for the
69 establishment and duties of a sports medicine advisory committee
70 composed of the following members:

71 1. Eight physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter



535120

72 459 with at least one member licensed under chapter 459.

73 2. One chiropractor licensed under chapter 460.

74 3. One podiatrist licensed under chapter 461.

75 4. One dentist licensed under chapter 466.

76 5. Three athletic trainers licensed under part XIII of
77 chapter 468.

78 6. One member who is a current or retired head coach of a
79 high school in the state.

80 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

81
82 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

83 And the title is amended as follows:

84 Delete everything before the enacting clause
85 and insert:

86 A bill to be entitled
87 An act relating to youth athletes; amending ss.
88 943.0438 and 1006.20, F.S.; requiring an independent
89 sanctioning authority for youth athletic teams and the
90 Florida High School Athletic Association to adopt
91 guidelines, bylaws, and policies relating to the
92 nature and risk of concussion and head injury in youth
93 athletes; requiring informed consent for participation
94 in practice or competition; requiring removal from
95 practice or competition under certain circumstances
96 and written medical clearance to return; requiring the
97 Florida High School Athletic Association to adopt
98 bylaws for the establishment and duties of a sports
99 medicine advisory committee; specifying membership;
100 providing an effective date.