

By Senator Ring

29-00149-15

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to athletic coaches; amending s.
3 943.0438, F.S.; requiring an independent sanctioning
4 authority to dismiss an athletic coach ejected from a
5 game for the remainder of that sport season under
6 certain circumstances; authorizing such athletic coach
7 to resume working under certain circumstances;
8 requiring an independent sanctioning authority to
9 establish a procedure for an athletic coach to appeal
10 certain decisions; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (2) of
15 section 943.0438, Florida Statutes, to read:

16 943.0438 Athletic coaches for independent sanctioning
17 authorities.—

18 (2) An independent sanctioning authority shall:

19 (h) Immediately dismiss an athletic coach who is ejected
20 from a game in a league of children 12 years of age or younger
21 for the remainder of the sport season.

22 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., the independent
23 sanctioning authority may allow an athletic coach dismissed
24 under this paragraph to resume working as an athletic coach for
25 the league the following sport season or any time thereafter if
26 the authority determines that the person remains qualified to
27 work as an athletic coach.

28 2. The independent sanctioning authority must establish a
29 procedure of due process to ensure that an athletic coach

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30 ejected from a game in a league of children 12 years of age or
31 younger has the opportunity to appeal the ejection to the
32 independent sanctioning authority. The authority shall expedite
33 the appeal process so that disposition of the appeal can be made
34 before the end of the applicable sport season, if possible. If
35 the athletic coach is successful in his or her appeal, the
36 athletic coach shall be reinstated and allowed to continue
37 coaching for the remainder of the sport season and thereafter.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.