

HB 479

2015

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.

11  
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

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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  
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.