

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to athletics in public K-12 schools;  
3       amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; requiring the Florida High  
4       School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws  
5       authorizing certain coaches to support the welfare of  
6       a student by using personal funds to provide certain  
7       effects to the student; providing requirements for  
8       such bylaws; requiring the coach to report such use of  
9       personal funds to the association; providing that such  
10      use of personal funds is presumed not to be an  
11      impermissible benefit; providing exceptions; providing  
12      a limitation on the annual amount of personal funds a  
13      coach may use per athletic team per year, beginning on  
14      a specified date; authorizing other athletic  
15      associations to adopt similar bylaws; amending ss.  
16      768.135, 1002.20, 1006.165, and 1012.468, F.S.;  
17      conforming cross-references; providing an effective  
18      date.

19  
20   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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22       **Section 1. Present paragraphs (c) through (n) of**  
23       **subsection (2) of section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, are**  
24       **redesignated as paragraphs (d) through (o), respectively, and a**  
25       **new paragraph (c) is added to that subsection, to read:**

26 1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

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

28 (c) The FHSAA shall adopt bylaws that authorize a coach,  
29 employed by a school or school district, to support the welfare  
30 of a student he or she coaches by using personal funds to  
31 provide, in good faith, effects such as food, transportation,  
32 physical therapy, and rehabilitation services. The bylaws must  
33 define the term "athletic team" to include junior varsity and  
34 varsity levels, based on designation requirements of s.  
35 1006.205(3)(a), and restrict such use of funds to one coach per  
36 athletic team.

37 1. A coach who uses personal funds to provide such effects  
38 must report such use to the FHSAA in a manner provided by FHSAA  
39 bylaw.

40 2. Such use of personal funds is presumed not to be an  
41 impermissible benefit, unless such use of personal funds is:

42 a. Not reported;

43 b. Reported and deemed not to be in good faith by the  
44 FHSAA; or

45 c. Used for recruiting purposes.

46 3. Beginning July 1, 2026, the maximum amount of personal  
47 funds a coach may use per athletic team per year is \$15,000.

48  
49 Any other organization governing interscholastic athletic  
50 competition in this state may adopt bylaws similar to those

51 required by this paragraph.

52 **Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 768.135, Florida**  
53 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

54 768.135 Volunteer team physicians; immunity.—

55 (3) A practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter  
56 459, chapter 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123  
57 who gratuitously and in good faith conducts an evaluation  
58 pursuant to s. 1006.20(2)(d) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)~~ is not liable for  
59 any civil damages arising from that evaluation unless the  
60 evaluation was conducted in a wrongful manner.

61 **Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section**  
62 **1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

63 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
64 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
65 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
66 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
67 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
68 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

69 (17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

70 (b) *Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram.*—Before  
71 participating in athletics, students must:

72 1. Satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year,  
73 unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets  
74 or practices, in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) ~~s.~~  
75 ~~1006.20(2)(d)~~; and

76           2. As applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an  
77 electrocardiogram, unless the parent objects in writing based on  
78 religious tenets or practices or secures a certificate of  
79 medical exception in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) ~~s.~~  
80 ~~1006.20(2)(d)~~ or the school district is unable to obtain a  
81 public or private partnership for the provision of an  
82 electrocardiogram pursuant to s. 1006.165.

83           **Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1006.165, Florida**  
84 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

85           1006.165 Well-being of students participating in  
86 extracurricular activities; training.—

87           (3) Each school district must pursue public and private  
88 partnerships to provide low-cost electrocardiograms to the  
89 student. A student athlete is exempt from the requirement in s.  
90 1006.20(2)(d)4. ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)4.~~ if he or she resides in a  
91 school district that is unable to obtain a public or private  
92 partnership to provide an electrocardiogram at a rate of less  
93 than \$50 per student.

94           **Section 5. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section**  
95 **1012.468, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

96           1012.468 Exceptions to certain fingerprinting and criminal  
97 history checks.—

98           (2) A district school board shall exempt from the  
99 screening requirements set forth in ss. 1012.465 and 1012.467  
100 the following noninstructional contractors:

101           (g) An investigator for the Florida High School Athletic  
102 Association (FHSA) who meets the requirements under s.  
103 1006.20(2)(f) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)~~.

104           **Section 6.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.