

By the Committee on Education Pre-K - 12; and Senator Jones

581-02043-26

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to athletics in public K-12 schools;  
amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; requiring the Florida High  
School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws  
authorizing a coach to support the welfare of a  
student by using personal funds to provide certain  
effects to the student; requiring the coach to report  
such use of personal funds to the association;  
providing that such use of personal funds is presumed  
not to be an impermissible benefit; providing  
exceptions; providing a limitation on the annual  
amount of personal funds a coach may use per athletic  
team; amending ss. 768.135, 1002.20, 1006.165, and  
1012.468, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing  
an effective date.

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

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

1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

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

(c) The FHSA shall adopt bylaws that authorize a coach to  
support the welfare of a student he or she coaches by using  
personal funds to provide, in good faith, effects such as food,  
transportation, and recovery services.

1. A coach who uses personal funds to provide such effects

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30 must report such use to the FHSAA in a manner provided by FHSAA  
31 bylaw.

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

34 a. Not reported;

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

37 c. Used for recruiting purposes.

38 3. The amount of personal funds a coach may use per  
39 athletic team per year is \$15,000.

40 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 768.135, Florida  
41 Statutes, is amended to read:

42 768.135 Volunteer team physicians; immunity.—

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

49 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section  
50 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

51 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
52 school students must receive accurate and timely information  
53 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
54 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
55 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
56 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

57 (17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

58 (b) *Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram.*—Before

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participating in athletics, students must:

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

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

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

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

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

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

1012.468 Exceptions to certain fingerprinting and criminal history checks.—

(2) A district school board shall exempt from the screening requirements set forth in ss. 1012.465 and 1012.467 the

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88 following noninstructional contractors:

89 (g) An investigator for the Florida High School Athletic  
90 Association (FHSAA) who meets the requirements under s.  
91 1006.20(2)(f) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)~~.

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