

SENATE BILL No. 222

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 20-34-7; IC 34-30-2-85.6.

Synopsis: High school student athlete concussions. Provides that a high school student athlete who has been removed from play because of a suspected concussion or head injury may not return to play until at least 24 hours have passed since the incident. Beginning July 1, 2014, requires football coaches and assistant football coaches to complete a course concerning player safety and concussions at least once during a two year period. Provides civil immunity for football coaches in certain circumstances.

Effective: July 1, 2014.

Holdman, Alting

January 9, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.



Second Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2014)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2013 Regular Session and 2013 First Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 222



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-34-7-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.144-2011,
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3 JULY 1, 2014]: Sec. 5. (a) A high school student athlete who has been
4 removed from play under section 4 of this chapter may not return to
5 play until:
6 (1) the student athlete:
7 (†) (A) is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained
8 in the evaluation and management of concussions and head
9 injuries; and
10 (‡) (B) receives a written clearance to return to play from the
11 health care provider who evaluated the student athlete; **and**
12 (2) **not less than twenty-four (24) hours have passed since the**
13 **student athlete was removed from play.**
14 (b) A licensed health care provider who evaluates a student athlete
15 under subsection (a) may conduct the evaluation as a volunteer. A
16 volunteer health care provider who in good faith and gratuitously



1 authorizes a student athlete to return to play is not liable for civil
 2 damages resulting from an act or omission in the rendering of an
 3 evaluation, except for acts or omissions that constitute gross negligence
 4 or willful or wanton misconduct.

5 SECTION 2. IC 20-34-7-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
 6 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
 7 1, 2014]: **Sec. 6. (a) Beginning July 1, 2014, prior to coaching
 8 football, each head football coach and assistant football coach shall
 9 complete a certified coaching education course that:**

- 10 (1) is sport specific;
 11 (2) is accredited by an independent third party;
 12 (3) contains player safety content, including content on:
 13 (A) concussion awareness;
 14 (B) equipment fitting;
 15 (C) heat emergency preparedness; and
 16 (D) proper technique;
 17 (4) requires a coach to complete a test demonstrating
 18 comprehension of the content of the course; and
 19 (5) awards a certificate of completion to a coach who
 20 successfully completes the course.

21 (b) For a coach's completion of a course to satisfy the
 22 requirement imposed by subsection (a), the course must have been
 23 approved by the department.

24 (c) A coach shall complete a course not less than once during a
 25 two (2) year period. However, if the coach receives notice from the
 26 organizing entity that new information has been added to the
 27 course before the end of the two (2) year period, the coach must:

- 28 (1) complete instruction; and
 29 (2) successfully complete a test;

30 concerning the new information to satisfy the requirement imposed
 31 by subsection (a).

32 (d) An organizing entity shall maintain a file of certificates of
 33 completion awarded under subsection (a)(5) to head coaches and
 34 assistant coaches of teams that use the organizing entity's facilities
 35 for their athletic activities.

36 (e) A coach who complies with this section and provides
 37 coaching services in good faith is not liable for damages in a civil
 38 action as a result of a concussion or head injury incurred by an
 39 athlete participating in an athletic activity in which the coach
 40 provided coaching services, except for an act or omission by the
 41 coach that constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton
 42 misconduct.



1 SECTION 3. IC 34-30-2-85.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
2 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014]: **Sec. 85.6. IC 20-34-7-6 (Concerning**
4 **coaches).**

