

# HOUSE BILL No. 1272

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

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

**Synopsis:** Football and head injuries. Requires each individual responsible for equipment fitting and heat emergency preparedness for interscholastic or intramural football or any other organized football league or group for individuals who are less than 20 years of age to complete a certified education course that: (1) is sport specific; (2) contains certain player safety content; (3) requires the individual to complete a test; and (4) awards a certificate upon successful completion. (Current law requires coaches and assistant coaches who coach football to individuals less than 20 years of age to complete the certified education course.) Requires coaches and assistant coaches who coach football to individuals less than 20 years of age to complete a certified coaching education course that: (1) is sport specific; (2) contains information on concussion awareness; and (3) awards a certificate upon successful completion. Provides certain civil immunities for the individuals, coaches, and assistant coaches. (Current law provides certain civil immunities for coaches and assistant coaches.)

**Effective:** July 1, 2015.

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January 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

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 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1272



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 20-34-7-6, AS ADDED BY P.L.34-2014,  
2 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 6. (a) As used in this section, "football" does not  
4 include flag football.  
5 (b) Beginning July 1, ~~2014~~, **prior 2015, each individual**  
6 **responsible for equipment fitting and heat emergency**  
7 **preparedness for to coaching football to interscholastic or**  
8 **intramural football or any other organized football league or**  
9 **group for** individuals who are less than twenty (20) years of age ~~each~~  
10 ~~head football coach and assistant football coach~~ shall complete a  
11 certified ~~coaching~~ education course that:  
12 (1) is sport specific;  
13 (2) contains player safety content, including content on:  
14 (A) concussion awareness;  
15 (B) equipment fitting;



- 1 (C) heat emergency preparedness; and  
 2 (D) proper technique;
- 3 (3) requires ~~a coach~~ **an individual** to complete a test  
 4 demonstrating comprehension of the content of the course; and  
 5 (4) awards a certificate of completion to ~~a coach~~ **an individual**  
 6 who successfully completes the course.
- 7 (c) For ~~a coach's~~ **an individual's** completion of a course to satisfy  
 8 the requirement imposed by subsection (b), the course must have been  
 9 approved by the department.
- 10 (d) ~~A coach~~ **An individual** shall complete a course not less than  
 11 once during a two (2) year period. However, if the ~~coach~~ **individual**  
 12 receives notice from the organizing entity that new information has  
 13 been added to the course before the end of the two (2) year period, the  
 14 ~~coach~~ **individual** must:
- 15 (1) complete instruction; and  
 16 (2) successfully complete a test;
- 17 concerning the new information to satisfy the requirement imposed by  
 18 subsection (b).
- 19 (e) An organizing entity shall maintain a file of certificates of  
 20 completion awarded under subsection (b)(4) to any of the **individuals**  
 21 **described in subsection (b) who are employed by or volunteer with**  
 22 ~~the organizing entity's head coaches and assistant coaches.~~ **entity.**
- 23 (f) ~~A coach~~ **An individual** who complies with this section and  
 24 provides ~~coaching~~ services **described in subsection (b)** in good faith  
 25 is not personally liable for damages in a civil action as a result of a  
 26 concussion or head injury incurred by an athlete participating in an  
 27 athletic activity in which the ~~coach~~ **individual** provided ~~coaching~~ **the**  
 28 services, except for an act or omission by the ~~coach~~ **individual** that  
 29 constitutes gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.
- 30 SECTION 2. IC 20-34-7-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
 31 AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE JULY  
 32 1, 2015]: **Sec. 7. (a) As used in this section, "football" does not**  
 33 **include flag football.**
- 34 **(b) This section does not apply to an individual required to**  
 35 **complete a certified education course under section 6 of this**  
 36 **chapter.**
- 37 **(c) Beginning July 1, 2015, prior to coaching football to**  
 38 **individuals who are less than twenty (20) years of age, each head**  
 39 **football coach and assistant football coach shall complete a**  
 40 **certified coaching education course that:**
- 41 **(1) is sport specific;**  
 42 **(2) contains information on concussion awareness; and**



- 1           **(3) awards a certificate of completion to a coach who**  
 2           **successfully completes the course.**
- 3           **(d) For a coach's or assistant coach's completion of a course to**  
 4           **satisfy the requirement imposed by subsection (b), the course must**  
 5           **have been approved by the department.**
- 6           **(e) A coach or assistant coach shall complete a course not less**  
 7           **than once during a two (2) year period. However, if the coach or**  
 8           **assistant coach receives notice from the organizing entity that new**  
 9           **information has been added to the course before the end of the two**  
 10          **(2) year period, the coach must:**
- 11           **(1) complete instruction; and**  
 12           **(2) successfully complete a test;**  
 13          **concerning the new information to satisfy the requirement imposed**  
 14          **by subsection (c).**
- 15          **(f) An organizing entity shall maintain a file of certificates of**  
 16          **completion awarded under subsection (c)(3) to any of the**  
 17          **organizing entity's head coaches and assistant coaches.**
- 18          **(g) A coach or assistant coach who complies with this section**  
 19          **and provides coaching services in good faith is not personally liable**  
 20          **for damages in a civil action as a result of a concussion or head**  
 21          **injury incurred by an athlete participating in an athletic activity in**  
 22          **which the coach or assistant coach provided coaching services,**  
 23          **except for an act or omission by the coach that constitutes gross**  
 24          **negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.**
- 25          **SECTION 3. IC 34-30-2-85.9, AS ADDED BY P.L.34-2014,**  
 26          **SECTION 4, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE**  
 27          **JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 85.9. IC 20-34-7-6 (Concerning ~~coaches~~:**  
 28          **individuals responsible for equipment fitting and heat emergency**  
 29          **preparedness for football).**
- 30          **SECTION 4. IC 34-30-2-86.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA**  
 31          **CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS**  
 32          **[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 86.1. IC 20-34-7-7 (Concerning**  
 33          **coaches and assistant coaches and athletic injuries).**

