

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 605**

**Representatives Upchurch, Creech**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 3775.17 of the Revised Code to 1  
require that the playing surface of a 2  
professional sporting stadium be comprised of 3  
not less than 90% natural grass. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 3775.17 of the Revised Code be 5  
enacted to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 3775.17.** (A) As used in this section: 7

"Professional athlete" has the same meaning as in section 8  
718.011 of the Revised Code. 9

"Professional sporting stadium" means any facility with a 10  
seating capacity of ten thousand or more that hosts a preseason, 11  
regular season, or postseason sport or athletic event in which 12  
members of the national football league, major league baseball, 13  
or major league soccer compete. 14

(B) The playing surface of a professional sporting stadium 15  
shall be comprised of not less than ninety per cent natural 16  
grass and maintained at industry standard levels for high 17  
performance field surfaces. 18

**Section 2.** The General Assembly finds that safe working environments are an essential aspect of a thriving economy and provide citizens with employment opportunities that avail them and their families to be contributing and positive members of the community. Furthermore, the General Assembly finds that competitions that occur on natural grass surfaces result in fewer non-contact lower extremity injuries, and therefore, that natural grass provides the safest available work environment for athletes who compete on either natural grass, synthetic turf, or a blend.

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