

HOUSE BILL 2103

By Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 7, relative to student athletes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) There is hereby created a task force to:

(1) Study and evaluate concussions and other injuries received from long term, continued participation in high school, college, university, community or junior college level sports;

(2) Examine the academic growth and behavior of the students who participate in high school, college, university, community or junior college level sports; and

(3) Determine the best remedy for student athletes who enroll at any college, university, community or junior college that offers an athletic scholarship to the student athlete, but the scholarship is withdrawn because the student is unable to remain on the athletic team because of a concussion or other sports-related injury.

(b) The task force shall include, at a minimum, two (2) representatives appointed by the superintendent of Memphis City Schools, two (2) representatives appointed by the superintendent of Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools, two (2) representatives appointed by the superintendent of Hamilton County Schools, two (2) representatives appointed by the board of regents, two (2) representatives appointed by the University of Tennessee, one (1)

representative from the department of education, one (1) representative from the department of health, one (1) representative from the state board of education, two (2) representatives from Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA), and two (2) representatives from the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

(c) The department of education shall provide support services to each task force created under this section, including, but not limited to, facilitating communications among task force members. The commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee shall report the task force's findings and recommendations, including recommended legislation or rules, to the education committee of the senate, education administration and planning committee of the house of representatives, and the education instruction and programs committee of the house of representatives by February 2, 2017. The task force shall cease to exist upon completion of the task force's report and recommendations.

(d) The members of each task force shall serve without compensation, but shall be eligible for reimbursement for travel expenses in accordance with the provisions of the comprehensive travel regulations as promulgated by the department of finance and administration and approved by the attorney general and reporter.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.