

HOUSE BILL 2537

By Fitzhugh

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 55, relative to youth athletic activity safety.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 55, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The governing authority of each public and nonpublic elementary school, middle school, junior high school, and high school shall require any coach in the school's football program to meet minimum standards regarding knowledge, including mental and physical skill, about the sport of football prior to coaching. The standards shall be developed by the department in consultation with national groups whose main purpose is to teach, instruct, and coach the sport of football.

(b) Any city, county, business, or nonprofit organization that organizes a community-based youth football program, where the majority of participants are under eighteen (18) years of age and for which an activity fee is charged, shall require any coach in the program to meet minimum standards regarding knowledge, including mental and physical skill, about the sport of football prior to coaching. The standards shall be developed by the department in consultation with national groups whose main purpose is to teach, instruct, and coach the sport of football.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.