

1 HB308  
2 136464-3  
3 By Representatives Johnson (R) and DeMarco  
4 RFD: Education Policy  
5 First Read: 14-FEB-12

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ENGROSSED

A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend Section 2 of Act 2011-541 of the 2011 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 22-11E-2 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to concussions and head injuries; to require each local board of education to develop guidelines and other pertinent information regarding medical evaluation of concussions or head injuries; and to require a youth athlete who has been removed from a practice or an athletic game because of a concussion be withheld from practice for or participation in athletic games.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 2 of Act 2011-541 of the 2011 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 22-11E-2 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§22-11E-2.

"(a) ~~The~~ Each local school system and governing body of each sport or recreational organization shall develop guidelines and other pertinent information and forms to inform and educate youth athletes and their parents or guardians in their program of the nature and risk of concussion and brain injury, including continuing to play after a suspected

1 concussion or brain injury. On a yearly basis, a concussion  
2 and head injury information sheet shall be signed and returned  
3 by the youth athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian  
4 prior to the youth athlete's initiating practice or  
5 competition.

6 "(b) Each local school system and sports or  
7 recreational organization governing body shall ensure that  
8 coaches receive annual training to learn how to recognize the  
9 symptoms of a concussion and how to seek proper medical  
10 treatment for a person suspected of having a concussion.

11 "(c) Each local school system and sports or  
12 recreational organization shall establish by rule the  
13 requirements of the training which shall be provided by using  
14 designated resources to the extent practicable and timelines  
15 to ensure that, to the extent practicable, every coach  
16 receives the training before the beginning of practice for the  
17 school athletic team.

18 "(d) A youth athlete who is suspected of sustaining  
19 a concussion or brain injury in practice or a game shall be  
20 immediately removed from participation and may not return to  
21 play the day of the injury and until ~~the athlete~~ he or she is  
22 evaluated by a licensed physician and receives written  
23 clearance to return to play from a licensed physician."

24 Section 2. This act shall become effective  
25 immediately following its passage and approval by the  
26 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-  
ferred to the House of Representa-  
tives committee on Education Policy  
..... . . . . 14-FEB-12

Read for the second time and placed  
on the calendar 1 amendment ..... . . . . 01-MAR-12

Read for the third time and passed  
as amended..... . . . . 08-MAR-12

Yeas 97, Nays 0, Abstains 1

Greg Pappas  
Clerk