

SJR81 INTRODUCED



1 SJR81
2 DGVBCNT-1
3 By Senator
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 12-Mar-26



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SJR___ COMMENDING THE COACHSAFELY FOUNDATION FOR IMPROVED STANDARDS IN YOUTH SPORTS INJURY MITIGATION.

WHEREAS, the Coach Safely Act, now Chapter 11F of Title 22, Code of Alabama 1975, was passed by the Alabama Legislature in 2018 and was the nation's first nationally recognized comprehensive youth sports injury mitigation legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Coach Safely Act requires all paid and unpaid athletics personnel and coaches of athletes 14 years of age and under using state, county, or city property to complete a course that identifies safety techniques and methods consistent with mitigating the high risk of injury in youth sports; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Legislature amended the Coach Safely Act to authorize the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) to enforce compliance, subject to penalty, by youth athletic associations throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, the ADPH has been instrumental in the implementation and success of the Coach Safely Act; Alabama youth athletes are safer due to the agency's diligence; and

WHEREAS, the National Council of Youth Sports is the recognized national certifier of youth sports guidelines, standards, and best practices; and

WHEREAS, The Alabama Legislature and ADPH has



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29 annually partnered with the CoachSafely Foundation for the
30 purpose of developing, delivering, and maintaining a
31 single-source course and programs to fulfill the
32 requirements of the Coach Safely Act; now therefore,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
34 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the CoachSafely Foundation
35 is commended for enhancing and maintaining the highest
36 standards of coaching, sports medicine content, and
37 educational efficacy, and we encourage the CoachSafely
38 Foundation to continue its valued partnership with Alabama
39 youth athletes and to maintain its commitment to high
40 standards by:

41 1. Periodically reviewing its coaching and medical
42 content to ensure alignment with current peer-reviewed
43 research;

44 2. Surveying youth athletic coaches to promote
45 continuous improvement in educational effectiveness; and

46 3. Maintaining a comprehensive database of course
47 tracking and completions to support ongoing compliance with
48 CoachSafely Foundation standards.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Legislature
50 recognizes and commends the Alabama Department of Public
51 Health for its diligent implementation and oversight of the
52 Coach Safely Act, and for its continued leadership in
53 advancing the health, safety, and well-being of youth
54 athletes throughout this state.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That, consistent with the
56 department's ongoing commitment to maintaining high



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57 standards and uniform statewide compliance, we encourage
58 that any educational course intended to satisfy the
59 requirements of the Coach Safety Act be approved by the
60 National Council of Youth Sports or by a substantially
61 similar nationally recognized organization that establishes
62 comparable standards for youth sports safety, sports
63 medicine content, and coaching education.

64 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama Department
65 of Public Health is encouraged to continue its collaborative
66 efforts with nationally recognized organizations to ensure
67 that all approved courses reflect best practices,
68 evidence-based standards, and the shared goal of protecting
69 Alabama's youth athletes.