



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 1051

LCO No. 3814

03814_____PH_

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PRACTICE OF ATHLETIC TRAINING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 20-65f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (1) "Athletic training" means the application or provision, with the
5 consent and under the direction of a health care provider, of (A)
6 [principles, methods and procedures of evaluation, prevention,
7 treatment and rehabilitation of athletic injuries sustained by athletes]
8 (i) risk management and injury prevention, (ii) clinical evaluation and
9 assessment, (iii) treatment, and (iv) rehabilitation and intervention of
10 emergency, acute and chronic injuries and medical conditions
11 involving impairment, functional limitations and disabilities, which
12 are applied or provided within the limits of the education and training
13 of an athletic trainer, (B) (i) appropriate preventative and supportive
14 devices, temporary splinting, [and] bracing and casting, (ii) physical
15 modalities of heat, cold, light, electric stimulation, massage, [water,
16 electric stimulation, sound,] aquatic therapy, sound, therapeutic

17 exercise, and [exercise equipment,] (iii) other modalities as prescribed
18 by a health care provider, and (C) [the organization and administration
19 of athletic training programs, and (D) education and counseling to
20 athletes, coaches, medical personnel and athletic communities in the
21 area of the prevention and care of athletic injuries] wellness care
22 services that are developed and applied in the treatment of
23 asymptomatic clients. For purposes of this [subdivision] section,
24 "health care provider" means a person licensed to practice medicine or
25 surgery under chapter 370, chiropractic under chapter 372, podiatry
26 under chapter 375 or natureopathy under chapter 373;

27 (2) ["Athletic injury"] "Injury" means any [injury] clinical condition
28 sustained [by an athlete as a result of such athlete's participation in
29 exercises, sports, games or recreation] as a result of an individual's
30 participation in activities requiring strength, agility, flexibility, range of
31 motion, speed or stamina, or any comparable [injury] clinical condition
32 that prevents such [athlete] individual from participating in [any] such
33 activities, or a clinical condition for which athletic training services are
34 an appropriate course of treatment as determined by a health care
35 provider;

36 [(3) "Athlete" means any person who is a member of any
37 professional, amateur, school or other sports team, or is a regular
38 participant in sports or recreational activities, including, but not
39 limited to, training and practice activities, that require strength, agility,
40 flexibility, range of motion, speed or stamina. For purposes of this
41 subdivision, "regular" means not less than three times per week;]

42 (3) "Wellness care" means services related to conditioning, strength
43 training, fitness, workplace ergonomics or injury prevention;

44 [(4) "Standing orders" means written protocols, recommendations
45 and guidelines for treatment and care, furnished and signed by a
46 health care provider specified under subdivision (1) of this section, to
47 be followed in the practice of athletic training that may include, but
48 not be limited to, (A) appropriate treatments for specific athletic

49 injuries, (B) athletic injuries or other conditions requiring immediate
50 referral to a licensed health care provider, and (C) appropriate
51 conditions for the immediate referral to a licensed health care provider
52 of injured athletes of a specified age or age group;]

53 (4) "With the consent and under the direction of a health care
54 provider" means the issuance of written standing orders that (A)
55 provide protocols, recommendations or guidelines for the treatment
56 and care of symptomatic individuals, (B) are furnished by a health care
57 provider, and (C) are followed in the practice of athletic training while
58 under the oversight, control and direction of a health care provider.
59 Written standing orders may include, but shall not be limited to,
60 appropriate treatments for specific injuries, injuries or other medical
61 conditions requiring immediate referral to a health care provider and
62 appropriate conditions necessitating the immediate referral to a health
63 care provider of individuals of a certain specified age or age group.
64 Written standing orders may include guidelines for treatment and
65 management of traumatic brain injuries and concussions. Written
66 standing orders shall be periodically reviewed by a health care
67 provider and the athletic trainer and may be renewed on an annual
68 basis. As used in this subdivision, "oversight, control and direction"
69 includes, but is not limited to, (i) continuous availability of direct
70 communication either in person or by radio, telephone or other mode
71 of telecommunication between a health care provider and an athletic
72 trainer, (ii) a health care provider's active and regular overview of the
73 athletic trainer's activities to ensure that such provider's directions are
74 being implemented and to support the athletic trainer in the
75 performance of his or her services, (iii) a health care provider's
76 personal review of the athletic trainer's services on a regular basis in
77 order to ensure quality patient care, including, face-to-face meetings,
78 verbal reports and a review of the athletic trainer's charts and records,
79 (iv) delineation by a health care provider of a predetermined plan for
80 emergency situations, and (v) designation of an alternate health care
81 provider to provide oversight, control and direction to the athletic
82 trainer in the absence of a supervising health care provider;

83 (5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.

84 Sec. 2. Section 20-65h of the general statutes is repealed and the
85 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

86 (a) Each person who practices athletic training [under standing
87 orders] with the consent and under the direction of a health care
88 provider shall make a written or oral referral to a licensed health care
89 provider of any [athlete] individual who has an athletic injury whose
90 symptoms have not improved for a period of four days from the day of
91 onset, or who has any physical or medical condition that would
92 constitute a medical contraindication for athletic training or that may
93 require evaluation or treatment beyond the scope of athletic training.
94 [The injuries or conditions requiring a referral under this subsection
95 shall include, but not be limited to, suspected medical emergencies or
96 illnesses, physical or mental illness and significant tissue or
97 neurological pathologies.]

98 (b) Each person who practices athletic training, but [not under
99 standing orders] who does so without the consent and direction of a
100 health care provider, may perform initial evaluation and temporary
101 splinting and bracing of any [athlete] individual with an [athletic]
102 injury and shall, without delay, make a written or oral referral of such
103 [athlete] individual to a licensed health care provider. The limitations
104 on the practice of athletic training set forth in this subsection shall not
105 apply in the case of any [athlete] individual that is referred to such
106 person by a licensed health care provider, provided such practice shall
107 be limited to the scope of such referral.

108 Sec. 3. Section 20-65i of the general statutes is repealed and the
109 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

110 A license to practice athletic training shall not be required of: (1) A
111 practitioner who is licensed or certified by a state agency and is
112 performing services within the scope of practice for which such person
113 is licensed or certified; (2) a student [intern or trainee] pursuing a

114 course of study in athletic training, provided the activities of such
115 student [intern or trainee] are performed under the supervision of a
116 person licensed to practice athletic training and the student [intern or
117 trainee] is given the title of ["athletic trainer intern"] "athletic training
118 student", or similar [designation] title as designated by the
119 Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education or its
120 successor organization; (3) a person employed or volunteering as a
121 coach of amateur sports who provides first aid for athletic injuries to
122 athletes being coached by such person; (4) a person who furnishes
123 assistance in an emergency; or (5) a person who acts as an athletic
124 trainer in this state for less than thirty days per calendar year and who
125 is licensed as an athletic trainer by another state or is certified by the
126 Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor organization.

127 Sec. 4. Section 20-65j of the general statutes is repealed and the
128 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2011*):

129 (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, an
130 applicant for a license to practice athletic training shall have: (1) A
131 baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution of higher
132 education, or from an institution of higher learning located outside of
133 the United States that is legally chartered to grant postsecondary
134 degrees in the country in which such institution is located; and (2)
135 current certification as an athletic trainer by the Board of Certification,
136 Inc., or its successor organization.

137 (b) An applicant for licensure to practice athletic training by
138 endorsement shall present evidence satisfactory to the commissioner
139 (1) of licensure or certification as an athletic trainer, or as a person
140 entitled to perform similar services under a different designation, in
141 another state having requirements for practicing in such capacity that
142 are substantially similar to or higher than the requirements in force in
143 this state, and (2) that there is no disciplinary action or unresolved
144 complaint pending against such applicant.

145 [(c) Prior to April 30, 2007, the commissioner shall grant a license as

146 an athletic trainer to any applicant who presents evidence satisfactory
147 to the commissioner of (1) the continuous providing of services as an
148 athletic trainer since October 1, 1979, or (2) certification as an athletic
149 trainer by the Board of Certification, Inc., or its successor organization.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	20-65f
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	20-65h
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	20-65i
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	20-65j

Statement of Purpose:

To revise statutes concerning the practice of athletic training to reflect changes within the profession.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]