



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2014

LCO No. 4151

HB0511304151HDO

Offered by:

REP. URBAN, 43rd Dist.
SEN. BARTOLOMEO, 13th Dist.
REP. FAWCETT, 133rd Dist.
REP. DAVIS P., 117th Dist.

REP. STEINBERG, 136th Dist.
REP. ACKERT, 8th Dist.
REP. KOKORUDA, 101st Dist.
REP. KUPCHICK, 132nd Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5113

File No. 622

Cal. No. 103

**"AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH ATHLETICS AND
CONCUSSIONS."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 10-149b of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

5 (a) (1) For the school year commencing July 1, 2010, and each school
6 year thereafter, any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit
7 by the State Board of Education and is a coach of intramural or
8 interscholastic athletics shall complete an initial training course
9 regarding concussions, [and head injuries] which are a type of brain
10 injury, developed or approved pursuant to subdivision (1) of
11 subsection (b) of this section, prior to commencing the coaching
12 assignment for the season of such school athletics.

13 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, [2011] 2014, and each
14 school year thereafter, [and after completion of] any coach who has
15 completed the initial training course described in subdivision (1) of
16 this subsection [, such coach] shall annually review current and
17 relevant information regarding concussions, [and head injuries,]
18 prepared or approved pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
19 this section, prior to commencing the coaching assignment for the
20 season of such school athletics. Such annual review shall not be
21 required in any year when such coach is required to complete the
22 refresher course, pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, for
23 reissuance of his or her coaching permit.

24 (3) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
25 year thereafter, a coach shall complete a refresher course, developed or
26 approved pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section,
27 not later than five years after completion of the initial training course,
28 as a condition of the reissuance of a coaching permit to such coach.
29 Such coach shall thereafter retake such refresher course at least once
30 every five years as a condition of the reissuance of a coaching permit to
31 such coach.

32 (b) (1) [On or before July 1, 2010, the] The State Board of Education,
33 in consultation with (A) the Commissioner of Public Health, (B) the
34 governing authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics, [(B)]
35 (C) an appropriate organization representing licensed athletic trainers,
36 and [(C)] (D) an organization representing county medical
37 associations, shall develop or approve a training course regarding
38 concussions, [and head injuries.] Such training course shall include,
39 but not be limited to, (i) the recognition of the symptoms of a
40 concussion, [or head injury,] (ii) the means of obtaining proper medical
41 treatment for a person suspected of having a concussion, [or head
42 injury,] and (iii) the nature and risk of concussions, [and head injuries,]
43 including the danger of continuing to [play] engage in athletic activity
44 after sustaining a concussion [or head injury] and the proper method
45 of allowing a student athlete who has sustained a concussion [or head

46 injury] to return to athletic activity.

47 (2) On or before [July 1, 2011] October 1, 2014, and annually
48 thereafter, the State Board of Education, in consultation with the
49 Commissioner of Public Health and the organizations described in
50 subparagraphs (B) to (D), inclusive, of subdivision (1) of this
51 subsection, shall [prepare] develop or approve annual review
52 materials regarding current and relevant information about
53 concussions. [and head injuries.]

54 (3) [On or before January 1, 2014, the] The State Board of Education,
55 in consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health and the
56 organizations described in subparagraphs (B) to (D), inclusive, of
57 subdivision (1) of this subsection, shall develop or approve a refresher
58 course regarding concussions. [and head injuries.] Such refresher
59 course shall include, but not be limited to, (A) an overview of key
60 recognition and safety practices, (B) an update on medical
61 developments and current best practices in the field of concussion
62 research, [and] prevention and treatment, [and] (C) an update on new
63 relevant federal, state and local laws and regulations, and (D) for
64 football coaches, current best practices regarding coaching the sport of
65 football, including, but not limited to, frequency of games and full
66 contact practices and scrimmages as identified by the governing
67 authority for intramural and interscholastic athletics.

68 (c) On or before January 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in
69 consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health and the
70 organizations described in subparagraphs (B) to (D), inclusive, of
71 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop or
72 approve a concussion education plan for use by local and regional
73 boards of education. Each local and regional board of education shall
74 implement such plan by utilizing written materials, online training or
75 videos or in person training that shall address, at a minimum: (1) The
76 recognition of signs or symptoms of concussion, (2) the means of
77 obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of
78 sustaining a concussion, (3) the nature and risks of concussions,

79 including the danger of continuing to engage in athletic activity after
80 sustaining a concussion, (4) the proper procedures for allowing a
81 student athlete who has sustained a concussion to return to athletic
82 activity, and (5) current best practices in the prevention and treatment
83 of a concussion.

84 (d) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
85 year thereafter, each local and regional board of education shall
86 prohibit a student athlete from participating in any intramural or
87 interscholastic athletic activity unless the student athlete, and a parent
88 or guardian of such student athlete, (1) reads written materials, (2)
89 views online training or videos, or (3) attends in-person training
90 regarding the concussion education plan developed or approved
91 pursuant to subsection (c) of this section.

92 (e) (1) On or before July 1, 2015, the State Board of Education, in
93 consultation with the Commissioner of Public Health and the
94 organizations described in subparagraphs (B) to (D), inclusive, of
95 subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section, shall develop or
96 approve an informed consent form to distribute to the parents and
97 legal guardians of student athletes involved in intramural or
98 interscholastic athletic activities regarding concussions. Such informed
99 consent form shall include, at a minimum, (A) a summary of the
100 concussion education plan developed or approved pursuant to
101 subsection (c) of this section, and (B) a summary of the applicable local
102 or regional board of education's policies regarding concussions.

103 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
104 year thereafter, each school shall provide each participating student
105 athlete's parent or legal guardian with a copy of the informed consent
106 form developed or approved pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
107 subsection and obtain such parent's or legal guardian's signature,
108 attesting to the fact that such parent or legal guardian has received a
109 copy of such form and authorizes the student athlete to participate in
110 the athletic activity.

111 [(c)] (f) The State Board of Education may revoke the coaching
112 permit, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section
113 10-145b, of any coach found to be in violation of this section.

114 Sec. 2. Section 10-149c of the general statutes is repealed and the
115 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

116 (a) (1) The coach of any intramural or interscholastic athletics shall
117 immediately remove a student athlete from participating in any
118 intramural or interscholastic athletic activity who (A) is observed to
119 exhibit signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion
120 following an observed or suspected blow to the head or body, or (B) is
121 diagnosed with a concussion, regardless of when such concussion [or
122 head injury] may have occurred. Upon such removal, a qualified
123 school employee, as defined in subsection (e) of section 10-212a, shall
124 notify the student athlete's parent or legal guardian that the student
125 athlete has exhibited such signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent
126 with a concussion or has been diagnosed with a concussion. Such
127 qualified school employee shall provide such notification not later than
128 twenty-four hours after such removal and shall make a reasonable
129 effort to provide such notification immediately after such removal.

130 (2) The coach shall not permit such student athlete to participate in
131 any supervised team activities involving physical exertion, including,
132 but not limited to, practices, games or competitions, until such student
133 athlete receives written clearance to participate in such supervised
134 team activities involving physical exertion from a licensed health care
135 professional trained in the evaluation and management of concussions.

136 (3) Following clearance pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
137 subsection, the coach shall not permit such student athlete to
138 participate in any full, unrestricted supervised team activities without
139 limitations on contact or physical exertion, including, but not limited
140 to, practices, games or competitions, until such student athlete (A) no
141 longer exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a
142 concussion at rest or with exertion, and (B) receives written clearance

143 to participate in such full, unrestricted supervised team activities from
144 a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and
145 management of concussions.

146 (b) The State Board of Education may revoke the coaching permit, in
147 accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section 10-145b, of
148 any coach found to be in violation of this section.

149 (c) For purposes of this section, "licensed health care professional"
150 means a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370, a physician
151 assistant licensed pursuant to chapter 370, an advanced practice
152 registered nurse licensed pursuant to chapter 378 or an athletic trainer
153 licensed pursuant to chapter 375a.

154 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For the school year
155 commencing July 1, 2014, and annually thereafter, the State Board of
156 Education shall require all local and regional school districts to collect
157 and report all occurrences of concussions to the board. Each report
158 shall contain, if known: (1) The nature and extent of the concussion,
159 and (2) the circumstances in which the student sustained the
160 concussion.

161 (b) For the school year commencing July 1, 2015, and each school
162 year thereafter, the State Board of Education shall send a concussion
163 report to the Department of Public Health containing all of the
164 information received pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

165 (c) Not later than October 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
166 Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance with section
167 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
168 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children
169 and public health on the findings of the concussion report provided to
170 the department pursuant to subsection (b) of this section."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-149b
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	10-149c
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section