



General Assembly

February Session, 2014

Amendment

LCO No. 4075

HB0511304075HDO

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 Section 10-149b of the general statutes is repealed and the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 the
63 implementation of athletic coaching and instructional techniques, (D)
64 an update on new relevant federal, state and local laws and
65 regulations, and (E) for football coaches, current best practices
66 regarding coaching the sport of football, including, but not limited to,
67 frequency of games and full contact practices and scrimmages as
68 identified by the governing authority for intramural and
69 interscholastic athletics.

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

79 obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of
80 sustaining a concussion, (3) the nature and risks of concussions,
81 including the danger of continuing to engage in athletic activity after
82 sustaining a concussion, (4) the proper procedures for allowing a
83 student athlete who has sustained a concussion to return to athletic
84 activity, and (5) current best practices in the prevention and treatment
85 of a concussion.

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

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

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

112 the athletic activity.

113 [(c)] (f) The State Board of Education may revoke the coaching
114 permit, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (i) of section
115 10-145b, of any coach found to be in violation of this section.

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

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

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

138 (3) Following clearance pursuant to subdivision (2) of this
139 subsection, the coach shall not permit such student athlete to
140 participate in any full, unrestricted supervised team activities without
141 limitations on contact or physical exertion, including, but not limited
142 to, practices, games or competitions, until such student athlete (A) no

143 longer exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a
144 concussion at rest or with exertion, and (B) receives written clearance
145 to participate in such full, unrestricted supervised team activities from
146 a licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and
147 management of concussions.

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

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

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

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

167 (c) Not later than October 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the
168 Commissioner of Public Health shall report, in accordance with section
169 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committees of the
170 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children
171 and public health on the findings of the concussion report provided to
172 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