



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Raised Bill No. 6722

LCO No. 3347



Referred to Committee on COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

AN ACT CONCERNING CONCUSSIONS IN YOUTH ATHLETICS.

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 10-149b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2015*):

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

12 (2) For the school year commencing July 1, 2014, and each school
13 year thereafter, any coach who has completed the initial training
14 course described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall annually
15 review current and relevant information regarding concussions,

16 prepared or approved pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of
17 this section, prior to commencing the coaching assignment for the
18 season of such school athletics. Such annual review shall not be
19 required in any year when such coach is required to complete the
20 refresher course, pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection, for
21 reissuance of his or her coaching permit.

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

30 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2015*) (a) For purposes of this section:

31 (1) "Youth athletic activity" means an organized athletic activity
32 involving participants of not less than seven years of age and not more
33 than nineteen years of age, who (A) engage in an organized athletic
34 game or competition against another team, club or entity or in practice
35 or preparation for an organized game or competition against another
36 team, club or entity, and (B) pay a fee to participate in such organized
37 athletic game or competition or whose cost to participate in such
38 athletic game or competition is sponsored by a municipality, business
39 or nonprofit organization. "Youth athletic activity" does not include
40 any college or university athletic activity, an athletic activity entered
41 into for instructional purposes only or an athletic activity that is
42 incidental to a nonathletic program or a lesson; and

43 (2) "Operator" means any municipality, business or nonprofit
44 organization that conducts, coordinates, organizes or otherwise
45 oversees any youth athletic activity.

46 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, each

47 operator of a youth athletic activity shall provide a written statement
48 regarding concussions to each youth athlete and a parent or legal
49 guardian of each youth athlete participating in the youth athletic
50 activity. Such written statement shall be provided upon registration of
51 each youth athlete and shall include educational content addressing, at
52 a minimum: (1) The recognition of signs or symptoms of a concussion,
53 (2) the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person
54 suspected of sustaining a concussion, (3) the nature and risks of
55 concussions, including the danger of continuing to engage in youth
56 athletic activity after sustaining a concussion, and (4) the proper
57 procedures for allowing a youth athlete who has sustained a
58 concussion to return to athletic activity.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	10-149b(a)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2015</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the safety of children in Connecticut by implementing policies to reduce the number of concussions sustained by children participating in youth athletic activities.

[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.]