AN ACT CONCERNING CONCUSSION EDUCATION FOR COACHES OF YOUTH ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES.

SUMMARY

This bill requires youth coaches to complete the online concussion course available on the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Those coaches who are hired or volunteer (1) on or before July 1, 2019, must complete the course by December 31, 2019, and (2) after July 1, 2019, must complete the course within 30 days after they are hired or begin volunteering. Under the bill, no youth coach or operator can be held civilly liable for a youth coach failing to complete this training requirement.

Under the bill, “youth coaches” means anyone who is paid as a head or assistant coach, manager or, instructor of a youth athletic activity conducted on a municipal field, court, or other recreational area. The requirement does not apply to anyone holding or issued a State Board of Education coaching permit, who is already subject to concussion training requirements under existing law.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2019

BACKGROUND

Youth Athletic Activity

Under existing law, a “youth athletic activity” is an organized athletic activity involving participants between ages seven and 19 who:

either (a) engage in an organized athletic game or competition against another team, club, or entity or in practice or preparation for an organized game or competition or (b) attend an organized athletic camp or clinic intended to train, instruct, or prepare participants to engage in organized athletic games or competitions and
1. either (a) pay a fee to participate in the game or competition or attend the camp or clinic or (b) have a municipality, business, or nonprofit organization sponsor their participation cost.

The term does not include any college or university athletic activity or an athletic activity incidental to a nonathletic program or lesson.

**Operator**

By law, an “operator” is a municipality, business, or nonprofit organization that conducts, coordinates, organizes, or otherwise oversees any youth athletic activity. It does not include municipalities, businesses, or nonprofits that solely provide access to, or use of, any field, court, or other recreation area.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 14  Nay 0  (03/12/2019)