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

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

Section 1. Section 21a-432 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(a) For purposes of this section:

(1) "Youth athletic activity" means an organized athletic activity involving participants of not less than seven years of age and not more than nineteen years of age, who (A) (i) 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 against another team, club or entity, or (ii) attend an organized athletic camp or clinic the purpose of which is to train, instruct or prepare such participants to engage in an organized athletic game or competition, and (B) (i) pay a fee to participate in such organized athletic game or competition or attend such camp or clinic, or (ii) whose cost to participate in such athletic game or competition or attend such camp or clinic is sponsored by a municipality, business or nonprofit organization. "Youth athletic activity" does not include any college or university athletic activity, or an athletic activity that is incidental to a nonathletic program or lesson; [and]

(2) "Youth coach" means any person who volunteers or is paid to act as a head coach, manager or instructor, or an assistant coach, assistant manager or assistant instructor of a youth athletic activity conducted
on a field, court or other recreational area owned, operated or managed by a municipality. "Youth coach" does not include any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education:

[(2)] (3) "Operator" means any municipality, business or nonprofit organization that conducts, coordinates, organizes or otherwise oversees any youth athletic activity but shall not include any municipality, business or nonprofit organization solely providing access to, or use of, any field, court or other recreational area, whether for compensation or not; [.] and

(4) "Concussion training course" means the concussion course for youth sports coaches available on the Internet web site of the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(b) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, each operator of a youth athletic activity shall make available a written or electronic statement regarding concussions to each youth athlete and a parent or legal guardian of each youth athlete participating in the youth athletic activity. Such written or electronic statement shall be made available upon registration of each youth athlete and shall be consistent with the most recent information provided by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding concussions. Such written or electronic statement shall include educational content addressing, at a minimum: (1) The recognition of signs or symptoms of a concussion, (2) the means of obtaining proper medical treatment for a person suspected of sustaining a concussion, (3) the nature and risks of concussions, including the danger of continuing to engage in youth athletic activity after sustaining a concussion, and (4) the proper procedures for allowing a youth athlete who has sustained a concussion to return to athletic activity.

(c) Any person who is hired or volunteers to be a youth coach on or before the effective date of this section shall complete a concussion training course not later than December 31, 2019. Any person who is hired or volunteers to be a youth coach after the effective date of this
section shall complete a concussion training course not later than thirty
days after such youth coach was hired or began volunteering.

[(c)] (d) (1) No operator, or designee of such operator, shall be
subject to civil liability for failing to make available the written or
electronic statement regarding concussions pursuant to subsection (b)
of this section.

(2) No person, organization or entity, including, but not limited to, a
youth coach or operator shall be subject to civil liability due to the
failure of a youth coach to take a concussion training course pursuant
to subsection (c) of this section.

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

| Section 1 | July 1, 2019 | 21a-432 |