

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1743

4
5 By: Representative Ingram

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF STUDENTS
9 IN PUBLIC SCHOOL ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES THROUGH THE USE
10 OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR
11 COACHES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

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14 TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF
15 STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOL ATHLETIC
16 ACTIVITIES THROUGH THE USE OF ATHLETIC
17 TRAINERS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR
18 COACHES.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 7 is amended
25 to add an additional section to read as follows:

26 6-18-708. Athletic training in public schools.

27 (a) A school district shall adopt a policy concerning athletic
28 training in its public schools that includes without limitation the
29 recognition and management of the following events or conditions that may be
30 encountered by a student during athletic training and activities:

31 (1) A concussion, dehydration, or other health emergency;

32 (2) An environmental issue that threatens the health or safety
33 of students; and

34 (3) A communicable disease.

35 (b)(1) Every two (2) years as part of the requirements for
36 professional development, a person employed by a school district as an



1 athletics coach shall complete training on the events and conditions
2 identified in subsection (a) of this section.

3 (2) The training may include a component on best practices for a
4 coach to educate parents of students involved in athletics on sports safety.

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6 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Public School Athletic Trainer Pilot
7 Program.

8 (a)(1) The Department of Education shall provide grants for providing
9 a access to one (1) or more athletic trainers to public schools in Arkansas
10 through the two-year Public School Athletic Trainer Pilot Program.

11 (2) The pilot program grants shall be awarded before the 2011-
12 2012 school year in order to allow time for program participants to employ
13 the athletic trainers.

14 (b) The department shall accept and review applications for
15 participation in the pilot program from:

16 (1) Any school that is classified as Class 6A or below by the
17 Arkansas Activities Association; and

18 (2) Education service cooperatives.

19 (c) To be eligible for participation in the pilot program, a school
20 shall agree to provide a room and supplies for the athletic trainer.

21 (d)(1) The grant recipients shall be selected by the department in
22 consultation with the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Athletic Training in
23 Public Schools.

24 (2) At least one (1) rural education service cooperative shall
25 be selected to receive a grant.

26 (e) The pilot program shall:

27 (1) Begin with the 2011-2012 school year;

28 (2) Be implemented by the participating education service
29 cooperatives; and

30 (3) Be monitored by:

31 (A) The nonvoting members of the Arkansas Legislative Task
32 Force on Athletic Training in Public Schools, or their designee; or

33 (B)(i) A subcommittee of the House Committee on Education,
34 or its designee.

35 (ii) The subcommittee may be a joint subcommittee of
36 both the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

1 (e) At the end of the pilot program, the persons monitoring the pilot
2 program shall provide a report to the General Assembly containing an
3 evaluation of the pilot program and any additional recommendations for the
4 employment and use of athletic trainers in Arkansas public schools.

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6 SECTION 3. DO NOT CODIFY. Section 1(k) of Act No. 1453 of the 2009
7 regular session of the 87th General Assembly, concerning the Arkansas
8 Legislative Task Force on Athletic Training in Public Schools, is amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (k) The task force shall be abolished on December 31, ~~2010~~ 2012.

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12 SECTION 4. DO NOT CODIFY. Section 2(b) of Act No. 1453 of the 2009
13 regular session of the 87th General Assembly, concerning the Arkansas
14 Legislative Task Force on Athletic Training in Public Schools, is amended to
15 read as follows:

16 (b) The task force shall submit a written report to the House
17 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education no later than
18 November 1, ~~2010~~ 2012.

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20 SECTION 5. DO NOT CODIFY. (a) The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on
21 Athletic Training in Public Schools shall develop a web-based survey to be
22 completed by each public school in Arkansas through the Department of
23 Education website.

24 (b) The survey shall include without limitation questions concerning:

25 (1) The recruitment, hiring, and retention of athletic trainers;

26 (2) Professional development and certification or licensure of
27 athletic training personnel; and

28 (3) Policies and training on the recognition and management of
29 the following events or conditions that may be encountered by a student
30 during athletic training and activities:

31 (A) A concussion, dehydration, or other health emergency;

32 (B) An environmental issue that threatens the health or
33 safety of students; and

34 (C) A communicable disease.

35 (c) The survey shall be reviewed by the nonvoting members of the
36 Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Athletic Training in Public Schools and a

1 report on the survey results and any additional recommendations shall be
2 included in the task force's report to the General Assembly.

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