

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 74 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY WASHINGTON, FARNESE, STACK, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE
AND LEACH, JANUARY 14, 2013

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, JANUARY 14, 2013

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of November 9, 2011 (P.L.411, No.101), entitled
2 "An act establishing standards for managing concussions and
3 traumatic brain injuries to student athletes; assigning
4 duties to the Department of Health and the Department of
5 Education; and imposing penalties," further providing for
6 concussions and traumatic brain injuries; and providing for
7 Department of Health oversight.

8 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
9 hereby enacts as follows:

10 Section 1. Section 3(b) and (e) of the act of November 9,
11 2011 (P.L.441, No.101), known as the Safety in Youth Sports Act,
12 are amended to read:

13 Section 3. Concussions and traumatic brain injuries.

14 * * *

15 (b) Informational meeting.--A school entity [may] shall hold
16 an informational meeting prior to the start of each athletic
17 season for all ages of competitors regarding concussions and
18 other head injuries, the importance of proper concussion
19 management and how preseason baseline assessments can aid in the
20 evaluation, management and recovery process. In addition to

1 students, parents, coaches and other school officials,
2 informational meetings may include physicians,
3 neuropsychologists, athletic trainers and physical therapists.

4 * * *

5 (e) Training course.--Once each school year, [a coach] all
6 participating designated game officials, coaches, athletic
7 trainers and referees shall complete the concussion management
8 certification training course offered by the Centers for Disease
9 Control and Prevention, the National Federation of State High
10 School Associations or another provider approved by the
11 Department of Health. [A] No game official, coach [shall not
12 coach] athletic trainer or referee shall participate in an
13 athletic activity until [the coach completes] the training
14 course required under this subsection has been completed.

15 * * *

16 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:
17 Section 3.1. Department of Health oversight.

18 (a) Enforcement.--The Department of Health shall have the
19 power to enforce the provisions of section 3(f) against a
20 governing body of a school that does not properly penalize a
21 coach found in violation of section 3(c) and (d).

22 (b) Fines.--If the Department of Health has to exercise
23 their power under subsection (a) it may fine the governing body
24 of a school:

25 (1) For a first violation, \$5,000.

26 (2) For a second violation, \$15,000.

27 (3) For a third and all subsequent violations, \$45,000
28 per incident and subsequent suspension of all related
29 athletic activities for up to one year.

30 (c) Distribution.--All moneys collected under subsection (b)

1 shall be used to increase student athletes' concussion awareness
2 and training programs for game officials, coaches, certified
3 athletic trainers, licensed physicians, licensed physical
4 therapists or other officials relating to student athletics as
5 determined by the Department of Health.

6 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.