

By Senator Collins

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to youth athletic activities; creating  
3           s. 381.796, F.S.; defining terms; requiring an entity  
4           that administers or conducts a high-risk youth  
5           athletic activity or training related to such activity  
6           on certain property to require certain unpaid or  
7           volunteer personnel to complete a specified course;  
8           requiring such personnel to complete the course within  
9           a specified timeframe and annually thereafter;  
10          providing that the course may be offered online or in  
11          person; prohibiting personnel from being charged a fee  
12          for the course; requiring the course to include  
13          specified information; providing an exemption for  
14          licensed athletic trainers; requiring the Department  
15          of Health to adopt rules; amending s. 1012.55, F.S.;  
16          revising the requirements for certain athletic coaches  
17          to include certification in cardiopulmonary  
18          resuscitation, first aid, and the use of an automatic  
19          external defibrillator; providing requirements for  
20          such certification; providing an effective date.

21  
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23  
24           Section 1. Section 381.796, Florida Statutes, is created to  
25 read:

26           381.796 High-risk youth athletic activities.—

27           (1) For the purposes of this section, the term:

28           (a) "Athletics personnel" means an individual who is  
29 actively involved in organizing, conducting, or coaching a high-

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30 risk youth athletic activity or an individual involved with  
31 training a child for participation in a high-risk youth athletic  
32 activity.

33 (b) "High-risk youth athletic activity" means any organized  
34 sport for children 14 years of age or younger in which there is  
35 a significant possibility for the child to sustain a serious  
36 physical injury. The term includes, but is not limited to, the  
37 sports of football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, soccer,  
38 ice or field hockey, cheerleading, and lacrosse.

39 (2) Any entity that administers or conducts a high-risk  
40 youth athletic activity, or training for such activity, on land  
41 owned, leased, operated, or maintained by the state or a  
42 political subdivision of the state must require any unpaid or  
43 volunteer athletics personnel to complete a course approved by  
44 the Department of Health which provides such personnel with  
45 information on how to prevent or decrease the chances of a  
46 participant in a high-risk youth athletic activity from  
47 sustaining a serious physical injury.

48 (a) The course must be completed within 30 days after the  
49 athletics personnel's initial involvement with the high-risk  
50 youth athletic activity and must be completed annually  
51 thereafter.

52 (b) The course may be offered online or in person, and the  
53 athletics personnel may not be charged any fee relating to the  
54 course.

55 (c) The course must include information on all of the  
56 following:

57 1. Emergency preparedness, planning, and rehearsal in  
58 relation to traumatic injuries.

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59       2. Concussions and head trauma.

60       3. Injuries resulting from heat or extreme weather.

61       4. Physical conditioning and the proper use of training  
62 equipment.

63       (d) The entity must maintain a record of each athletics  
64 personnel who completes the course for the entirety of his or  
65 her service as an unpaid or volunteer athletics personnel.

66       (3) An athletic trainer licensed under chapter 468 is  
67 exempt from this section.

68       (4) The department shall adopt rules to implement this  
69 section.

70       Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
71 1012.55, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

72       1012.55 Positions for which certificates required.—

73       (2) (a) 1. Each person who is employed and renders service as  
74 an athletic coach in any public school in any district of this  
75 state shall:

76       a. Hold a valid temporary or professional certificate or an  
77 athletic coaching certificate. The athletic coaching certificate  
78 may be used for either part-time or full-time positions.

79       b. Hold and maintain a certification in cardiopulmonary  
80 resuscitation, first aid, and the use of an automatic external  
81 defibrillator. The certification must be consistent with  
82 national evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care  
83 guidelines.

84       2. The provisions of this subsection do not apply to any  
85 athletic coach who voluntarily renders service and who is not  
86 employed by any public school district of this state.

87       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.