

By the Committees on Judiciary; and Education Pre-K - 12; and  
Senator Jones

590-02456-26

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to athletics in public K-12 schools;  
amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; requiring the Florida High  
School Athletic Association to adopt bylaws  
authorizing a head coach to support the welfare of a  
student by using personal funds to provide certain  
effects to the student; requiring the head coach to  
report such use of personal funds to the association;  
providing that such use of personal funds is presumed  
not to be an impermissible benefit; providing  
exceptions; providing a limitation on the annual  
amount of personal funds a head coach may use per  
athletic team; authorizing other athletic associations  
to adopt similar bylaws; amending ss. 768.135,  
1002.20, 1006.165, and 1012.468, F.S.; conforming  
cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Present paragraphs (c) through (n) of subsection  
(2) of section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
paragraphs (d) through (o), respectively, and a new paragraph  
(c) is added to that subsection, to read:

1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

(2) ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, POLICIES, OR GUIDELINES.—

(c) The FHSA shall adopt bylaws that authorize the head  
coach of an athletic team to support the welfare of a student he  
or she coaches only by using personal funds to provide, in good  
faith, effects such as food, transportation, and recovery

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30 services.

31 1. A head coach who uses personal funds to provide such  
32 effects must report such use to the FHSAA in a manner provided  
33 by FHSAA bylaw.

34 2. Such use of personal funds is presumed not to be an  
35 impermissible benefit, unless such use of personal funds is:

36 a. Not reported;

37 b. Reported and deemed not to be in good faith by the  
38 FHSAA; or

39 c. Used for recruiting purposes.

40 3. The maximum amount of personal funds a head coach may  
41 use per athletic team per year is \$15,000.

42  
43 Any other organization governing interscholastic athletic  
44 competition in this state may adopt bylaws similar to those  
45 required by this paragraph.

46 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 768.135, Florida  
47 Statutes, is amended to read:

48 768.135 Volunteer team physicians; immunity.—

49 (3) A practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459,  
50 chapter 460, or s. 464.012 or registered under s. 464.0123 who  
51 gratuitously and in good faith conducts an evaluation pursuant  
52 to s. 1006.20(2)(d) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)~~ is not liable for any civil  
53 damages arising from that evaluation unless the evaluation was  
54 conducted in a wrongful manner.

55 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (17) of section  
56 1002.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

57 1002.20 K-12 student and parent rights.—Parents of public  
58 school students must receive accurate and timely information

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regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory rights including, but not limited to, the following:

(17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

(b) *Medical evaluation and electrocardiogram.*—Before participating in athletics, students must:

1. Satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year, unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices, in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(d)~~; and

2. As applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an electrocardiogram, unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets or practices or secures a certificate of medical exception in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(d)~~ or the school district is unable to obtain a public or private partnership for the provision of an electrocardiogram pursuant to s. 1006.165.

Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 1006.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.165 Well-being of students participating in extracurricular activities; training.—

(3) Each school district must pursue public and private partnerships to provide low-cost electrocardiograms to the student. A student athlete is exempt from the requirement in s. 1006.20(2)(d) 4. ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e) 4.~~ if he or she resides in a school district that is unable to obtain a public or private partnership to provide an electrocardiogram at a rate of less than \$50 per student.

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88           Section 5. Paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section  
89   1012.468, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

90           1012.468 Exceptions to certain fingerprinting and criminal  
91   history checks.—

92           (2) A district school board shall exempt from the screening  
93   requirements set forth in ss. 1012.465 and 1012.467 the  
94   following noninstructional contractors:

95           (g) An investigator for the Florida High School Athletic  
96   Association (FHSAA) who meets the requirements under s.  
97   1006.20(2)(f) ~~s. 1006.20(2)(e)~~.

98           Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.