

**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 FHSAA 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; or39 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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59 regarding their child's academic progress and must be informed  
60 of ways they can help their child to succeed in school. K-12  
61 students and their parents are afforded numerous statutory  
62 rights including, but not limited to, the following:

63 (17) ATHLETICS; PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL.—

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

66 1. Satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year,  
67 unless the parent objects in writing based on religious tenets  
68 or practices, in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) s.  
69 ~~1006.20(2)(d)~~; and

70 2. As applicable under s. 1006.20, receive an  
71 electrocardiogram, unless the parent objects in writing based on  
72 religious tenets or practices or secures a certificate of  
73 medical exception in accordance with s. 1006.20(2)(e) s.  
74 ~~1006.20(2)(d)~~ or the school district is unable to obtain a  
75 public or private partnership for the provision of an  
76 electrocardiogram pursuant to s. 1006.165.

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

79 1006.165 Well-being of students participating in  
80 extracurricular activities; training.—

81 (3) Each school district must pursue public and private  
82 partnerships to provide low-cost electrocardiograms to the  
83 student. A student athlete is exempt from the requirement in s.  
84 1006.20(2)(d)4. s. 1006.20(2)(e)4. if he or she resides in a  
85 school district that is unable to obtain a public or private  
86 partnership to provide an electrocardiogram at a rate of less  
87 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.