

1 HB50
2 133567-1
3 By Representative Givan
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 07-FEB-12
6 PFD: 01/23/2012

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a youth athlete who has
9 been removed from play because of a concussion is
10 required to receive a written clearance to return
11 to play from a licensed physician who has been
12 trained in the evaluation and management of
13 concussions before the athlete is allowed to return
14 to participate in a practice or a game.

15 This bill would require a youth athlete who
16 has been removed from a practice for or an athletic
17 game because of a concussion to be withheld from
18 practice or participation in athletic games for
19 seven days from the date of the removal.

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21 A BILL
22 TO BE ENTITLED
23 AN ACT
24

25 To amend Section 2 of Act 2011-541 of the 2011
26 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 22-11E-2 of the Code
27 of Alabama 1975, relating to concussions and head injury; to

1 require a youth athlete who has been removed from a practice
2 for or an athletic game because of a concussion to be withheld
3 from practice for or participation in athletic games for seven
4 days from the date of the removal.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

6 Section 1. Section 2 of Act 2011-541 of the 2011
7 Regular Session, now appearing as Section 22-11E-2 of the Code
8 of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

9 "§22-11E-2.

10 "(a) The governing body of each sport or
11 recreational organization shall develop guidelines and other
12 pertinent information and forms to inform and educate youth
13 athletes and their parents or guardians in their program of
14 the nature and risk of concussion and brain injury, including
15 continuing to play after a suspected concussion or brain
16 injury. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury
17 information sheet shall be signed and returned by the youth
18 athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian prior to the
19 youth athlete's initiating practice or competition.

20 "(b) Each sports or recreational organization
21 governing body shall ensure that coaches receive annual
22 training to learn how to recognize the symptoms of a
23 concussion and how to seek proper medical treatment for a
24 person suspected of having a concussion.

25 "(c) Each sports or recreational organization shall
26 establish by rule the requirements of the training which shall
27 be provided by using designated resources to the extent

1 practicable and timelines to ensure that, to the extent
2 practicable, every coach receives the training before the
3 beginning of practice for the school athletic team.

4 "(d) A youth athlete who is suspected of sustaining
5 a concussion or brain injury in practice or a game shall be
6 immediately removed from participation and may not return to
7 play until seven days has elapsed from the removal and ~~the~~
8 ~~athlete~~ he or she is evaluated by a licensed physician and
9 receives written clearance to return to play from a licensed
10 physician."

11 Section 2. This act shall become effective
12 immediately following its passage and approval by the
13 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.