

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 334

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BARNES (Sponsor) AND FITZWATER (Co-sponsor).

0983L.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 167, RSMo, by adding thereto two new sections relating to the prevention and treatment of head injuries among student athletes.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 167, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto two new sections, to be known as sections 167.760 and 167.762, to read as follows:

167.760. 1. The department of education shall work to develop and implement, by the 2012-2013 school year, an interscholastic athletic head injury safety training program. The program shall be completed by a school physician, a person who coaches a public school district or nonpublic school interscholastic sport, and an athletic trainer involved in a public or nonpublic school interscholastic sport, and an athletic trainer involved in a public or nonpublic school interscholastic sports program. The safety training program shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) The recognition of the symptoms of head and neck injuries, concussions, and injuries related to second-impact syndrome; and

(2) The appropriate amount of time to delay the return to sports competition or practice of a student athlete who has sustained a concussion or other head injury.

2. The department of education shall update the safety training program as necessary to ensure that it reflects the most current information available on the nature, risk, and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries.

3. The department of education shall develop an educational fact sheet that provides information about sports-related concussions and other head injuries. A school district or a nonpublic school that participates in an interscholastic sports program shall

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **distribute the educational fact sheet annually to the parents or guardians of student**
19 **athletes and shall obtain a signed acknowledgment of the receipt of the fact sheet by the**
20 **student athlete and his or her parent or guardian.**

167.762. 1. Each school district shall develop a written policy concerning the
2 **prevention and treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries among**
3 **student athletes. The policy shall include, but not be limited to, the procedure to be**
4 **followed when it is suspected that a student athlete has sustained a concussion or other**
5 **head injury. When developing the district policy, a school district shall review the model**
6 **policy established by the commission of the department of education under subsection 2**
7 **of this section, the policies established by the Missouri State High School Athletics**
8 **Association, the Missouri brain injury council, and other organizations with expertise in**
9 **the area of preventing or treating sports-related concussions and other head injuries**
10 **among student athletes. Each school district shall implement the policy by the 2012-2013**
11 **school year.**

12 **2. To assist school districts in developing policies concerning the prevention and**
13 **treatment of sports-related concussions and other head injuries among student athletes,**
14 **the commissioner of the department of education shall develop a model policy applicable**
15 **to grades kindergarten through twelve. This model policy shall be issued no later than**
16 **March 31, 2012.**

17 **3. A student who participates in an interscholastic sports program and who**
18 **sustains or is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury while engaged in a sports**
19 **competition or practice shall be immediately removed from the sports competition or**
20 **practice. A student athlete who is removed from a competition or practice shall not**
21 **participate in further sports activity until he or she is evaluated by a physician or other**
22 **licensed healthcare provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions to**
23 **return to competition or practice.**