

HB 300 -- Student Athlete Head Injuries

Sponsor: Gatschenberger

This bill establishes the High School Sports Brain Injury Prevention Act which requires each school district board by December 31, 2011, to work with the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) to develop guidelines, information, and forms for coaches, student athletes, and their parents or guardians on the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including information on continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. An information sheet must be signed by the athlete's parent or guardian and submitted each year before a student athlete can practice or compete.

An athlete suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury must be removed from competition until he or she is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions, as defined by MSHSAA and in consultation with the Department of Mental Health, and receives a written clearance from the provider to return to play. A health care provider who volunteers and authorizes a youth athlete to return to play will not be civilly liable for damages resulting from any act or omission in rendering the care except in the case of gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.