AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 37:3302(introductory paragraph), (1), (2), (8), and (11) and to enact R.S. 37:3302(13), relative to athletic trainers; to provide for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:3302(introductory paragraph), (1), (2), (8), and (11) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 37:3302(13) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3302. Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following words and phrases have the meanings hereinafter ascribed to them in this Section:

1. "Athlete" means an individual designated as such by the board, an educational institution, a professional athletic organization, or other board-approved organization who participates in an athletic activity sponsored by such institution or organization.

2. "Athletic trainer" means an individual licensed by the board as an athletic trainer with the specific qualifications set forth in R.S. 37:3306.1 who, under the general supervision of a physician, carries out the practice of prevention, emergency management, and physical rehabilitation of athletic injuries and sports-related conditions incurred by athletes. In carrying out these functions, the athletic trainer shall use whatever physical modalities are prescribed by a team physician or consulting physician, or both.
(8) "Emergency management" means the immediate care given to an injured athlete under the general supervision of the team or consulting physician. To accomplish this care, an athletic trainer may use such methods as accepted first aid procedures approved by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, or protocol previously established by the athletic trainer and the team or consulting physicians.

* * *

(11) "Physical rehabilitation" means the care given to athletes following an athletic injury and recovery. These treatments and rehabilitation programs may consist of preestablished methods of physical modality use and exercise as prescribed by a team physician, consulting physician, or both. Physical rehabilitation also includes working cooperatively with and under the general supervision of a physician with respect to the following:

* * *

(13) "Athletic injury" means any injury, illness, or medical condition sustained by an athlete as a result of his participation in exercises, sports, games, or recreational activities.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.