

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 371

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

ATHLETICS: Provides relative to the comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(1), (2)(introductory paragraph) and (b),  
3 (3)(introductory paragraph) and (b), (4), and (F) and to enact R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(6)  
4 and (7), and (I), relative to the health and safety of students who participate in  
5 school-sanctioned athletics; to provide for an emergency action plan; to provide for  
6 coaches certification program; to provide for sports injury management program; to  
7 provide definitions; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(1), (2)(introductory paragraph) and (b), (3)(introductory  
10 paragraph) and (b), (4), and (F) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(6)  
11 and (7), and (I) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §1087.1. Comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics

13 \* \* \*

14 B. The injury management program shall:

15 (1)(a) Establish a comprehensive emergency action plan for each sport  
16 located on the school's campus ~~set of injuries to be classified as "serious sports~~  
17 ~~injuries" for the purposes of the program and define the signs and symptoms of such~~  
18 ~~injuries.~~



1 practices shall follow the modified guidelines of the American College of Sports  
2 Medicine and the National Athletic Trainers Association regarding the heat  
3 acclimatization and wet bulb globe temperature policy. These policies shall occur on  
4 all school campuses where summer conditioning, pre-season practices or games, or  
5 fall or spring sports take place, or when a coach is present.

6 (7) For each school participating in interscholastic athletics, choose to have  
7 a licensed athletic trainer available for practices and games to manage emergency  
8 and nonemergency care for participants.

9 \* \* \*

10 F. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) shall  
11 promulgate, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, any rules  
12 necessary to implement the sports injury management program provided for in this  
13 Subpart. In developing such rules, BESE may engage and solicit input from the  
14 Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and the Sports Medicine Advisory  
15 Committee of the Louisiana High School Athletic Association, and may incorporate  
16 recommendations of those groups in any final rules providing for a comprehensive  
17 sports injury management program.

18 \* \* \*

19 I. As used in this Subpart, the following terms have the meaning ascribed to  
20 them in this Section:

21 (1) "Heat acclimatization" means a series of changes or adaptations that occur  
22 in response to heat stress in a controlled environment over the course of seven to  
23 fourteen days. These adaptations are beneficial to exercise in the heat and allow the  
24 body to cope with heat stress.

25 (2) "Wet bulb temperature globe" means a measure of the heat stress in direct  
26 sunlight which takes into account temperature, humidity, wind speed, sun angle, and  
27 solar radiation.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 371 Original

2020 Regular Session

Turner

**Abstract:** Makes changes to the guidelines associated with the comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics.

Present law requires each high school that sponsors or sanctions any athletic activity and which requires a participating student to regularly practice or train and compete to implement a sports injury management program.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the sports injury management program to establish a set of injuries to be classified as "serious sports injuries" for the purposes of the program and define the signs and symptoms of such injuries.

Proposed law deletes present law and adds as a requirement that the program shall establish a comprehensive emergency plan for each sport located on the school's campus. Further provides that the emergency action plan shall be reviewed annually before the beginning of each sport season. Each emergency action plan shall identify all personnel who are maintained on file by the athletic director. Proposed law also provides that the emergency action plan shall follow the best practices outlined by the American College of Sports Medicine and the National Athletic Trainers Association.

Present law requires that any coach, game official, on-field licensed healthcare provider, or athletic trainer remove a student from practice, training, or competition.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the athletic trainer shall be identified as a licensed athletic trainer.

Present law provides that a student shall be removed from practice, training, or competition due to a serious sports injury.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the student who suffers a serious sports injury shall be safely removed from practice, training, or competition.

Present law requires each coach to receive documented training regarding the nature and risk of serious sports injuries.

Proposed law retains present law and requires that coaches certified by the Coaches Education and Certification Program receive annual documented training regarding the nature and risks of serious sports injuries following the guidance with the National Federation of High School Coaches and the Louisiana High School Coaches Association. Proposed law is necessary to serve the students, school, community, and protect public safety.

Proposed law provides that each school who participates in interscholastic athletics shall follow best practices for all activities not occurring in a climate-controlled facility. The guidelines shall follow the modified guidelines of the American College on Sports Medicine and the National Athletic Trainers Association surrounding the heat acclimatization and wet bulb globe treatment policies. Further provides that these policies shall occur on school

campuses where summer conditioning, pre-season practices or games, fall or spring sports, or when a coach is present.

Proposed law provides that each school having interscholastic athletics may have a licensed athletic trainer for practices and games to manage emergency and nonemergency care.

Present law requires the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement provisions for a sports injury management program.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that the rules shall be promulgated for a comprehensive sports injury management program.

Proposed law defines heat acclimatization and wet bulb globe treatment.

(Amends R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(1), (2)(intro. para.) and (b), (3)(intro. para.) and (b), (4), and (F); Adds R.S. 40:1087.1(B)(6) and (7), and (I))