

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 259 (HB 371)

2020 Regular Session

Turner

Existing 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.

New law retains existing law.

Prior law required 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.

New law deletes prior 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. New 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.

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

New law retains existing law but requires that the athletic trainer be a licensed athletic trainer.

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

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

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

New law retains existing 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. New law is necessary to serve the students, school, community, and protect public safety.

New law provides that each school that 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.

New law provides that if a school or school system utilizes a licensed athletic trainer to be available for practice or games, then the school or school system shall follow a protocol for licensed athletic trainers to assist in the management of emergency and nonemergency care for participants.

Existing 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.

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

New law defines heat acclimatization and wet bulb globe treatment.

Effective Aug. 1, 2020.

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