

1 HB108
2 125996-1
3 By Representative Johnson (R)
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 01-MAR-11

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8 SYNOPSIS: Existing law does not require a youth
9 athlete who has been removed from play because of a
10 concussion or head injury to receive a written
11 clearance to return to play in a game from a health
12 care provider who has been trained in the
13 evaluation and management of concussion or head
14 injuries.

15 This bill would require each local board of
16 education in concert with the Alabama High School
17 Athletic Association to develop guidelines and
18 other pertinent information regarding medical
19 evaluation of concussions or head injuries.

20 This bill would provide that a youth athlete
21 who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head
22 injury in a practice or game shall be removed from
23 competition at that time.

24 This bill would require a youth athlete who
25 has been removed from play because of a concussion
26 to receive a written clearance to return to play
27 from a health care provider who has been trained in

1 the evaluation and management of concussion before
2 the player is allowed to return to play in a game.

3 This bill would provide that a health care
4 provider would be not liable for civil damages
5 resulting from any act or omission in the rendering
6 of care, other than acts or omissions constituting
7 gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

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9 A BILL
10 TO BE ENTITLED
11 AN ACT

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13 Relating to concussions and head injury to require
14 each local board of education in concert with the Alabama High
15 School Athletic Association to develop guidelines and other
16 pertinent information regarding medical evaluation of
17 concussions or head injuries; to provide that a youth athlete
18 who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in
19 a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that
20 time; to require a youth athlete who has been removed from
21 play because of a concussion to receive a written clearance to
22 return to play from a health care provider who has been
23 trained in the evaluation and management of concussion before
24 the player is allowed to return to play in a game; and to
25 provide that a health care provider would not be liable for
26 civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the

1 rendering of care, other than acts or omissions constituting
2 gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. (a) Each local board of education shall
5 work in concert with the Alabama High School Athletic
6 Association to develop guidelines and other pertinent
7 information and forms to inform and educate coaches, youth
8 athletes, and their parents and/or guardians of the nature and
9 risk of concussion and head injury including the medical
10 evaluation of an injured player before he or she is allowed to
11 play after a concussion or head injury. On a yearly basis, a
12 concussion and head injury information sheet shall be signed
13 and returned by the youth athlete and the athlete's parent
14 and/or guardian prior to the youth athlete's initiating
15 practice or competition.

16 (b) A youth athlete who is a member of a public
17 elementary through 12th grade school athletic team and who is
18 suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a
19 practice or game shall be removed from competition at that
20 time.

21 (c) A youth athlete removed from play because of a
22 suspected concussion or head injury may not be permitted to
23 return to play until he or she is evaluated by a licensed
24 health care provider trained in the evaluation and management
25 of concussion and receives written clearance to return to play
26 from that health care provider. The health care provider may
27 be a volunteer. A volunteer who authorizes a youth athlete to

1 return to play shall not be liable for civil damages resulting
2 from any act or omission in the rendering of care, other than
3 acts or omissions constituting gross negligence or willful or
4 wanton misconduct.

5 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
6 first day of the third month following its passage and
7 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.