
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 672 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY PROBST, SIEGEL, GIRAL, SANCHEZ, MADDEN AND KINSEY,
MARCH 23, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, TECHNOLOGY AND
UTILITIES, MARCH 23, 2023

AN ACT

1 Providing for the disclosure of information by professionals
2 unlicensed by the Commonwealth; imposing duties on the
3 Attorney General; and imposing a penalty.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Disclosure of
8 Coach Credentials Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Clearly and prominently disclose." As follows:

14 (1) In written communications, including print and an
15 electronic medium, the message shall be in a type size
16 sufficiently noticeable for an ordinary consumer to read and
17 comprehend and in type that contrasts with the background
18 against which it appears.

1 (2) In oral communications the message shall be
2 delivered in a volume sufficient for an ordinary individual
3 to hear it and comprehend it and shall be understandable
4 language and syntax regardless of how the message is
5 disseminated.

6 "Client." An individual or group who receives services from
7 a coach.

8 "Coach." As follows:

9 (1) An individual or business who uses "coach" as a
10 professional designation, title, credential, certification or
11 description that indicates the individual or business has
12 special skills, knowledge, expertise, experience or training
13 designed to assist a client in achieving one or more of the
14 client's specific goals, tasks, objectives or aspirations
15 related to a specific field or activity by providing
16 instruction, education, advice, guidance, counseling,
17 training, direction, support, encouragement, motivation or
18 other forms of assistance designed to aid the client in
19 developing, improving, managing and maintaining the skills,
20 abilities, behaviors or attitudes necessary for the client's
21 growth, development, improvement and overall success in a
22 field or activity.

23 (2) The term includes any similar designations
24 indicating special knowledge and expertise in an unlicensed
25 profession or field in which credentials are not required,
26 including designations as an advisor, expert, guru,
27 influencer or master.

28 (3) The term does not include an individual who coaches
29 a sport.

30 "Electronic medium." Communications appearing on a

1 discussion board, marketplace, social media website or similar
2 platform or service.

3 "Sport." An activity involving physical exertion and skill
4 in which an individual or team competes against another
5 individual or team for entertainment, whether at the
6 recreational, scholastic, intramural, club, collegiate,
7 professional or other level.

8 Section 3. Disclosure of credentials.

9 (a) Requirement.--An individual or business who holds
10 themselves out to the public as a coach shall clearly and
11 prominently disclose in writing at an initial meeting or
12 consultation with a prospective client:

13 (1) The credentials that are the basis or source for
14 representation as a coach.

15 (2) Whether the representation as a coach was solely
16 created by the individual or business.

17 (3) Disclose whether the coach is licensed by the
18 Commonwealth.

19 (b) Method of disclosure.--

20 (1) If the first communication with a client is oral,
21 the requirement under subsection (a) shall be given orally.

22 (2) If the first communication with a client is written,
23 the requirement under subsection (a) shall be written.

24 (3) If the first communication with a client is visual,
25 the requirement under subsection (a) shall be visual.

26 Section 4. Prohibiting a diagnosis.

27 In a capacity as a coach, the coach shall not reference any
28 specific diagnosis or mental disorder that would be classified
29 or diagnosed by a health care practitioner as defined under
30 section 103 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known

1 as the Health Care Facilities Act.

2 Section 5. Violation.

3 (a) Investigation.--In connection with the petition filed
4 under subsection (b), the Attorney General may collect evidence,
5 make a determination of relevant facts, issue subpoenas to
6 investigate violations of this act and seek restitution for
7 victims.

8 (b) Injunction.--After at least five days of notice to a
9 defendant, the Attorney General may file a petition of
10 injunction in a court of competent jurisdiction against an
11 individual or business who violates this act to enjoin and
12 restrain the continuance of the violation. If a court finds that
13 a defendant has violated this act, an injunction may be issued
14 without proof of injury or damages.

15 Section 6. Construction.

16 The requirements of this act shall not be construed to limit
17 the obligations of a professional registered or licensed under
18 another law of this Commonwealth, nor shall this act be
19 construed to authorize the practice of a licensed profession nor
20 the offer of professional services by an unlicensed person.

21 Section 7. Effective date.

22 This act shall take effect in 120 days.