



LATA Lagniappe

May 2011

Important Legislative Bills during Current Session

A few bills have been submitted during the current legislative session that could impact athletic trainers. The bills are listed below with a quick description of each bill. Please review these bills and contact your legislators in regards to these bills as they are intended to improved the safety and welfare of athletes in the state. Please encourage parents, coaches, administrators, and athletes to support these bills also by contacting their legislators.

HB 364 (sponsored by Representative Roy)
Creates a comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics.

HB 515 and SB 189 (sponsored by Senators Cheek, Donahue, Jackson, Michot, Mount AND Nevers and Representatives Arnold, Austin, Badon, Brossett, Harrison, Henry, Katz, Ligi, Lorusso, Montoucet, Schroder, Simon, and St. Germain)
Provides for the Louisiana Youth Concussion Act

NATA Annual Meeting Coming to New Orleans

The NATA Annual Meeting is coming to New Orleans this summer. The dates of the meeting are June 19-June 22. Please visit <http://nola.nata.org/> for more information regarding meeting registration and hotel reservations. Members must register prior to June 3 to avoid the full onsite registration fee.

Summer Athletic Trainer Workshop in Lake Charles

The Lake Area Athletic Trainers' Association will be hosting its annual student athletic trainer workshop on June 12-14, 2011 on the campus of McNeese State University. This camp offers four different levels of experience. For more information on this camp, please contact Tammy Khonke at 337-477-0258 or J.D. Boudreaux at johndboudreaux@yahoo.com.

LATA Awards Reception and Social to be held at NATA Meeting

Info submitted by: Larry D'Antoni and Gerard White

LATA will host an awards reception and social during the NATA Annual Meeting. This event will be held at Le Pavillon Hotel on Tuesday, June 21. LATA needs your help in securing donations to provide an evening of entertainment free of charge for our members. Please consider soliciting for a sponsor in your area. If we can get 50 members to get one sponsor at \$100 each, then we would have \$5,000 to help cover the expenses for these events. If you have any questions about sponsorships, please contact Larry D'Antoni larry.dantoni@thibodaux.com or Gerard White gerard.white@nicholls.edu.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LAATA STUDENT ATHLETIC TRAINER SUMMER WORKSHOP

PLACE: LAKE CHARLES, LA
DATE: JUNE 12-14, 2011
HOST: MCNEESE STATE UNIVERSITY

NATA ANNUAL MEETING

PLACE: NEW ORLEANS, LA
DATE: JUNE 19-22, 2011
HOST: LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

LATA AWARDS RECEPTION AND SOCIAL

PLACE: LE PAVILLON HOTEL NEW ORLEANS, LA
DATE: JUNE 21, 2011
HOST: LOUISIANA ATHLETIC TRAINERS ASSOCIATION

If anyone has an event to be place on the calendar for future issues, please email the event, date, place, and time to johndboudreaux@yahoo.com so we can include the event on the list.



HB No. 515
Abstract: Provides for the Louisiana Youth Concussion Act

DIGEST

Proposed law provides that the governing authority of each public and nonpublic middle school, junior high school, and high school shall:

- (1) Prior to beginning of each athletic season, provide pertinent information to all coaches, officials, volunteers, youth athletes, and their parents or guardians which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
- (2) Require each coach, whether such coach is employed or a volunteer, and every official of a youth athletic activity that involves interscholastic play to complete an annual concussion recognition education course which is in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.
- (3) Require as a condition of participation in any athletic activities that the youth athlete and the youth athlete's parent or legal guardian sign a concussion and head injury information sheet which provides adequate notice of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for an athlete who has or is suspected to have suffered a concussion or head injury to return to play.

Proposed law requires each private club or public recreation facility and each athletic league which sponsors youth athletic activities to:

- (1) Prior to beginning of each athletic season, provide pertinent information to all coaches, officials, volunteers, youth athletes, and their parents or guardians which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
- (2) Require each volunteer coach for a youth athletic activity and each coach with whom the club, facility, or league directly contracts with, formally engages, or employs who coaches a youth athletic activity and each official to complete an annual concussion recognition course which is in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.
- (3) Require as a condition of participation in any athletic activities that the youth athlete and the youth athlete's parent or legal guardian sign a concussion and head injury information sheet which includes but is not limited to adequate notice of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for an athlete who has or is suspected to have sustained a concussion or head injury to return to play.

Proposed law requires that a concussion recognition education course include the following information:

- (1) How to recognize the signs of and symptoms of a concussion.
- (2) The necessity of obtaining proper medical attention for a person suspected of having sustained a concussion.
- (3) The nature and risk of concussions, including the danger of continuing to play after sustaining a concussion and the proper method and statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for a youth athlete to return to play in the athletic activity.

Proposed law provides that the training material made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) entitled, "Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports" and any amendments or updates thereto, or other training materials substantively and substantially similar to the CDC materials along with dissemination of a copy of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for a youth athlete who has or is suspected to have sustained a concussion to return to play in the athletic activity shall be deemed to satisfy the education requirements provided for in proposed law.



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HB 515 (Abstract)

Proposed law requires that a coach who is required to complete concussion recognition education pursuant to proposed law shall immediately remove any youth athlete from a game, competition, or practice if certain conditions are present.

Proposed law requires that if a youth athlete is removed from play and the signs and symptoms cannot be readily explained by a condition other than concussion, the coach shall notify the athlete's parent or legal guardian and shall not permit the youth athlete to return to play or participate in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion, including games, competitions, or practices, until the youth athlete is evaluated by a health care provider and receives written clearance from the health care provider for a graduated or full return to play.

Proposed law provides that after a youth athlete who has sustained a concussion or head injury has been evaluated and received clearance for a graduated return to play from a health care provider, an organization or association of which a school or school district is a member, a private or public school, a private club, a public recreation facility, or an athletic league may allow a licensed athletic trainer with specific knowledge of the athlete's condition to manage the athlete's graduated return to play.

Proposed law does not create any liability for, or create a cause of action against, a school, its officers, or its employees, an organization or association of which a school or school district is a member, a private or public school, a private club, a public recreation facility, or an athletic league when such person or entity has complied with the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires DHH to promulgate and make available to all public and private elementary schools, middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools, private clubs, public recreation facilities, and each athletic league which sponsors youth athletic activities information which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.



DIGEST

Proposed law provides that the governing authority of each public and nonpublic elementary school, middle school, junior high school, and high school shall:

- (1) Prior to beginning of each athletic season, provide pertinent information to all coaches, officials, volunteers, youth athletes, and their parents/guardian which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
- (2) Require each coach, whether such coach is employed or a volunteer, and every official of a youth athletic activity that involves interscholastic play to complete an annual concussion recognition education course which is in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.
- (3) Require as a condition of participation in any athletic activities that the youth athlete and the youth athlete's parents or legal guardian sign a concussion and head injury information sheet which provides adequate notice of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for an athlete who has or is suspected to have suffered a concussion or head injury to return to play.

Proposed law requires each private club or public recreation facility and each athletic league which sponsors youth athletic activities to:

- (1) Prior to beginning of each athletic season, provide pertinent information to all coaches, officials, volunteers, youth athletes, and their parents/guardian which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.
- (2) Require each volunteer coach for a youth athletic activity and each coach with whom the club, facility, or league directly contracts with, formally engages, or employs who coaches a youth athletic activity and each official to complete an annual concussion recognition course which is in accordance with the provisions of proposed law.
- (3) Require as a condition of participation in any athletic activities that the youth athlete and the youth athlete's parents or legal guardian sign a concussion and head injury information sheet which includes but is not limited to adequate notice of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for an athlete who has or is suspected to have sustained a concussion or head injury to return to play.

Proposed law requires that a concussion recognition education course include the following information:

- (1) How to recognize the signs of and symptoms of a concussion.
- (2) The necessity of obtaining proper medical attention for a person suspected of having sustained a concussion.
- (3) The nature and risk of concussions, including the danger of continuing to play after sustaining a concussion and the proper method and statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for a youth athlete to return to play in the athletic activity.

Proposed law provides that training material made available by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "CDC" entitled, "Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports" and any amendments or updates thereto, or other training materials substantively and substantially similar to the CDC materials along with dissemination of a copy of the statutory requirements which must be satisfied in order for a youth athlete who has or is suspected to have sustained a concussion to return to play in the athletic activity shall be deemed to satisfy the education requirements provided for in proposed law.

SB NO. 189 (Abstract)



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SB NO. 189 (Abstract)

Proposed law requires that a coach who is required to complete concussion recognition education pursuant to proposed law shall immediately remove any youth athlete from a game, competition, or practice if certain conditions are present.

Proposed law requires that if a youth athlete is removed from play and the signs and symptoms cannot be readily explained by a condition other than concussion, the coach shall notify the athlete's parent or legal guardian and shall not permit the youth athlete to return to play or participate in any supervised team activities involving physical exertion, including games, competitions, or practices, until the youth athlete is evaluated by a health care provider and receives written clearance from the health care provider for a graduated or full return to play.

Proposed law provides that after a youth athlete who has sustained a concussion or head injury has been evaluated and received clearance for a graduated return to play from a health care provider, an organization or association of which a school or school district is a member, a private or public school, a private club, a public recreation facility, or an athletic league may allow a licensed athletic trainer with specific knowledge of the athlete's condition to manage the athlete's graduated return to play.

Proposed law does not create any liability for, or create a cause of action against, a school, its officers, or its employees, an organization or association of which a school or school district is a member, a private or public school, a private club, a public recreation facility, or an athletic league when such person or entity has complied with the provisions of proposed law.

Proposed law requires DHH to promulgate and make available to all public and private middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools, private clubs, public recreation facilities, and each athletic league which sponsors youth athletic activities information which informs of the nature and risk of concussion and head injury, including the risks associated with continuing to play after a concussion or head injury.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.



HB No. 364
Abstract: Creates a comprehensive sports injury management program for student athletics.

DIGEST

Proposed law requires each 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 requires any elementary or secondary school which sponsors organized tackle football to ensure that at least one licensed athletic trainer is present at every inter-school game of tackle football.

Proposed law requires the sports injury management program to:

- (1) Establish a set of injuries to be classified as "serious injuries" for the purposes of the program, and define the signs and symptoms of such injuries.
- (2) Require that any coach, athletic trainer, or official remove a student from practice, training, or competition if any of the following circumstances occur:
 - (a) The student reports any defined sign or symptom of a serious injury.
 - (b) The coach, athletic trainer, or official determines that the student exhibits any defined sign or symptom of a serious injury.
 - (c) The coach or official is notified that the student has reported or exhibited any defined sign or symptom of a serious injury by a licensed, registered, or certified medical practitioner operating within their respective scope of practice, or any other licensed, registered, or certified individual whose scope of practice includes the recognition of symptoms associated with serious injuries.

Proposed law provides that any student who is removed from practice, training, or competition due to a serious injury:

- (1) Shall, as soon as practicable after reporting or exhibiting any sign or symptom of a serious injury, be examined by a health professional duly licensed in this state to provide health care services or medical treatment.
- (2) May be allowed to return to practice, training, or competition only after the student provides to the coach or athletic trainer written authorization from a health professional duly licensed in this state to provide health care services or medical treatment.

Proposed law requires that each coach or official in school-sponsored or school-sanctioned athletic activities receive biennial training regarding the nature and risk of serious sports related injuries.

Proposed law requires that prior to a student participating in athletic activities, the student and student's parent or guardian must document that they have viewed information provided by the school district regarding risks of serious sports-related injuries.

Proposed law provides that provisions of proposed law do not create any liability for, or create a cause of action against, a school, its officers, or its employees.

Proposed law authorizes a school to contract for and accept private contributions, gifts, and grants, or in-kind aid from the federal government, the state, or any other source to implement the sports injury management program.

Proposed law requires BESE to promulgate rules in accordance with the APA to implement provisions of proposed law.