



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB0200

Introduced 01/18/11, by Rep. Tom Cross - Timothy L. Schmitz

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/10-20.53 new
105 ILCS 5/34-18.45 new

Amends the School Code. Requires a school board to work in concert with the Illinois High School Association to develop guidelines and other pertinent information and forms to inform and educate coaches, student athletes, and these athletes' parents and guardians of the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. Requires the concussion and head injury information sheet to be signed and returned by a student athlete and the athlete's parent or guardian prior to the student athlete's initiating practice or competition. Provides that a school board shall adopt a policy requiring a student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game to be removed from competition at that time. Requires the policy to provide that a student athlete who has been removed from play may not return to play until the student athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and head injuries and the student athlete receives written clearance to return to play from that health care provider.

LRB097 00089 NHT 40097 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES
ACT MAY REQUIRE
REIMBURSEMENT

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Sections
5 10-20.53 and 34-18.45 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/10-20.53 new)

7 Sec. 10-20.53. Student athletes; concussions and head
8 injuries:

9 (a) The General Assembly recognizes all of the following:

10 (1) Concussions are one of the most commonly reported
11 injuries in children and adolescents who participate in
12 sports and recreational activities. The Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention estimates that as many as
14 3,900,000 sports-related and recreation-related
15 concussions occur in the United States each year. A
16 concussion is caused by a blow or motion to the head or
17 body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the
18 skull. The risk of catastrophic injuries or death are
19 significant when a concussion or head injury is not
20 properly evaluated and managed.

21 (2) Concussions are a type of brain injury that can
22 range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain
23 normally works. Concussions can occur in any organized or

1 unorganized sport or recreational activity and can result
2 from a fall or from players colliding with each other, the
3 ground, or with obstacles. Concussions occur with or
4 without loss of consciousness, but the vast majority of
5 concussions occur without loss of consciousness.

6 (3) Continuing to play with a concussion or symptoms of
7 a head injury leaves a young athlete especially vulnerable
8 to greater injury and even death. The General Assembly
9 recognizes that, despite having generally recognized
10 return-to-play standards for concussions and head
11 injuries, some affected youth athletes are prematurely
12 returned to play, resulting in actual or potential physical
13 injury or death to youth athletes in this State.

14 (b) Each school board shall work in concert with the
15 Illinois High School Association to develop guidelines and
16 other pertinent information and forms to inform and educate
17 coaches, student athletes, and these athletes' parents and
18 guardians of the nature and risk of concussions and head
19 injuries, including continuing to play after a concussion or
20 head injury. A concussion and head injury information sheet
21 must be signed and returned by a student athlete and the
22 athlete's parent or guardian prior to the student athlete's
23 initiating practice or competition.

24 (c) Each school board shall adopt a policy requiring a
25 student athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or
26 head injury in a practice or game to be removed from

1 competition at that time. The policy shall also provide that a
2 student athlete who has been removed from play may not return
3 to play until the student athlete is evaluated by a licensed
4 health care provider trained in the evaluation and management
5 of concussions and head injuries and the student athlete
6 receives written clearance to return to play from that health
7 care provider.

8 (105 ILCS 5/34-18.45 new)

9 Sec. 34-18.45. Student athletes; concussions and head
10 injuries.

11 (a) The General Assembly recognizes all of the following:

12 (1) Concussions are one of the most commonly reported
13 injuries in children and adolescents who participate in
14 sports and recreational activities. The Centers for
15 Disease Control and Prevention estimates that as many as
16 3,900,000 sports-related and recreation-related
17 concussions occur in the United States each year. A
18 concussion is caused by a blow or motion to the head or
19 body that causes the brain to move rapidly inside the
20 skull. The risk of catastrophic injuries or death are
21 significant when a concussion or head injury is not
22 properly evaluated and managed.

23 (2) Concussions are a type of brain injury that can
24 range from mild to severe and can disrupt the way the brain
25 normally works. Concussions can occur in any organized or

1 unorganized sport or recreational activity and can result
2 from a fall or from players colliding with each other, the
3 ground, or with obstacles. Concussions occur with or
4 without loss of consciousness, but the vast majority of
5 concussions occur without loss of consciousness.

6 (3) Continuing to play with a concussion or symptoms of
7 a head injury leaves a young athlete especially vulnerable
8 to greater injury and even death. The General Assembly
9 recognizes that, despite having generally recognized
10 return-to-play standards for concussions and head
11 injuries, some affected youth athletes are prematurely
12 returned to play, resulting in actual or potential physical
13 injury or death to youth athletes in this State.

14 (b) The board shall work in concert with the Illinois High
15 School Association to develop guidelines and other pertinent
16 information and forms to inform and educate coaches, student
17 athletes, and these athletes' parents and guardians of the
18 nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including
19 continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. A
20 concussion and head injury information sheet must be signed and
21 returned by a student athlete and the athlete's parent or
22 guardian prior to the student athlete's initiating practice or
23 competition.

24 (c) The board shall adopt a policy requiring a student
25 athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head
26 injury in a practice or game to be removed from competition at

1 that time. The policy shall also provide that a student athlete
2 who has been removed from play may not return to play until the
3 student athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider
4 trained in the evaluation and management of concussions and
5 head injuries and the student athlete receives written
6 clearance to return to play from that health care provider.