

Senate File 2225 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2225
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3044)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to assessing and reporting of potential
2 concussions or brain injuries in certain extracurricular
3 interscholastic athletic contests.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 280.13C, Code 2016, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. *a.* The home team in an extracurricular
4 interscholastic contest in which high school athletic teams
5 participate in a collision sport shall ensure that a contest
6 health care professional is present and available to assess
7 athletic injuries at such contest.

8 *b.* The home team in an extracurricular interscholastic
9 contest in which high school athletic teams participate in a
10 contact sport is strongly encouraged to ensure that a contest
11 health care professional is present and available to assess
12 athletic injuries at such contest.

13 *c.* If an athlete who is a member of a visiting team in an
14 extracurricular interscholastic contest at which a contest
15 health care professional is present and available to assess
16 athletic injuries as provided in this section shows signs,
17 symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or brain
18 injury, the contest health care professional shall notify the
19 visiting team's athletic director within forty-eight hours
20 after the contest occurs.

21 *d.* The department of education shall adopt rules pursuant
22 to chapter 17A establishing a process whereby a high school
23 may apply for an annual waiver of the requirements of this
24 section from the department and receive such a waiver if the
25 high school demonstrates a good-faith effort to comply with the
26 requirements of this section and an inability to do so due to a
27 regional shortage of contest health care professionals.

28 *e.* The department of education, the Iowa high school
29 athletic association, and the Iowa girls high school athletic
30 union shall establish a process whereby an extracurricular
31 interscholastic athletic contest can still take place when
32 a contest health care professional who was scheduled to be
33 present and available as provided in this section is not able
34 to be present and available due to unforeseen circumstances.

35 Sec. 2. Section 280.13C, subsection 4, Code 2016, is amended

1 by adding the following new paragraphs:

2 NEW PARAGRAPH. 0a. "*Collision sport*" means football,
3 soccer, wrestling, hockey, or lacrosse.

4 NEW PARAGRAPH. 00a. "*Contact sport*" means a sport that is
5 not a collision sport and that is defined as a contact sport by
6 the American academy of pediatrics.

7 NEW PARAGRAPH. 000a. "*Contest health care professional*"
8 means a physician licensed under chapter 148, physical
9 therapist licensed under chapter 148A, or athletic trainer
10 licensed under chapter 152D.

11 Sec. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
12 3, shall not apply to this Act.

13 EXPLANATION

14 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
15 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

16 This bill requires the home team in an extracurricular
17 interscholastic contest in which high school athletic teams
18 participate in a collision sport to ensure that a contest
19 health care professional is present and available to assess
20 athletic injuries at such contest. The bill strongly
21 encourages the home team in an extracurricular interscholastic
22 contest in which high school athletic teams participate in a
23 contact sport to ensure that a contest health care professional
24 is present and available to assess athletic injuries at such
25 contest.

26 The bill requires a contest health care professional who
27 is present and available to assess athletic injuries at an
28 extracurricular interscholastic contest as provided in the bill
29 to notify the visiting team's athletic director within 48 hours
30 after the contest occurs if an athlete who is a member of the
31 visiting team shows signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent
32 with a concussion or brain injury.

33 The bill requires the department of education to adopt
34 rules establishing a process whereby a high school may
35 apply for an annual waiver of the requirements of the bill

1 from the department and receive such a waiver if the high
2 school demonstrates a good-faith effort to comply with the
3 requirements of the bill and an inability to do so due to a
4 regional shortage of contest health care professionals.

5 The bill requires the department of education, the Iowa
6 high school athletic association, and the Iowa girls high
7 school athletic union to establish a process whereby an
8 extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest can still take
9 place when a contest health care professional who was scheduled
10 to be present and available as provided in the bill is not able
11 to be present and available due to unforeseen circumstances.

12 The bill defines "contest health care professional" as a
13 physician licensed under Code chapter 148, physical therapist
14 licensed under Code chapter 148A, or athletic trainer licensed
15 under Code chapter 152D. The bill defines "collision sport"
16 as football, soccer, wrestling, hockey, or lacrosse. The bill
17 defines "contact sport" as a sport that is not a collision
18 sport and that is defined as a contact sport by the American
19 academy of pediatrics.

20 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
21 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
22 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
23 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
24 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
25 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
26 mandate included in the bill.