

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 349

BY SENATOR BARROW

SCHOOLS. Provides for mental health evaluations of high school student athletes who are injured while participating in a sporting event. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:176(G) and 3714, relative to mental health evaluations of high school and

3 college student athletes who are injured while participating in sports; to provide

4 relative to city, parish, and local public school systems; to provide relative to

5 interscholastic and intercollegiate athletics; to provide mental health resources; to

6 provide for implementation; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:176(G) and 3714 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §176. Extracurricular activities; interscholastic athletics; participation; standards;

10 prohibitions; filming or videotaping; definitions

11 * * *

12 **(G)(1) Each city, parish, and other local public school systems shall**

13 **administer mental health evaluations to high school student athletes who are**

14 **injured while participating in an interscholastic athletic event.**

15 **(2) The school system shall provide mental health resources to assist**

16 **student athletes in recovering after being injured if necessary or appropriate.**

17 * * *

§3714. Intercollegiate athletes; mental health counseling

A.(1) Each postsecondary education institution shall administer mental health evaluations to all athletes enrolled at its institution who are injured while participating in an intercollegiate athletic event.

(2) Each institution shall provide mental health resources to assist student athletes in recovering after being injured if necessary or appropriate.

Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall be implemented by each high school and the Board of Regents beginning with the 2025-2026 school year.

Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall be known and cited as the "You Are More Than Your Sport Act".

Section 4. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Frances Aucoin.

DIGEST

SB 349 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Barrow

Proposed law provides that all city, parish, and other local public school systems and each postsecondary education institution must administer mental health evaluations on high school and college student athletes who have been injured while participating in interscholastic and intercollegiate athletic events.

Proposed law provides that the school system and each postsecondary institution must provide mental health resources to the injured student athlete if necessary or appropriate.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:176(G) and 3714)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Includes each postsecondary institution to administer mental health evaluations on college student athletes who have been injured while participating in intercollegiate athletic events.