

SENATE BILL NO. 260

BY SENATORS EDMONDS, CARTER, JENKINS, LUNEAU, MILLER AND MIZELL

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 9:2798(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 9:2798(D)(4) and R.S. 40:1087.2, relative to youth athletics; to provide for the Coach Safely Act; to provide for limitation of liability; to provide for definitions; to provide for an injury mitigation course; to provide for content of youth injury mitigation courses; to provide for posting of certain information on the internet; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 9:2798(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 9:2798(D)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§2798. Limitation of liability of a volunteer athletic coach, manager, team volunteer ~~health-care~~ **healthcare** provider, or official; definitions

* * *

B.(1) The provisions of this Section shall not be applicable unless the volunteer athletic coach, manager, athletic trainer, team volunteer ~~health-care~~ **healthcare** provider, or sports team official has participated in a safety orientation and training program established by the league or team with which he is affiliated **or a youth injury mitigation course**. Any safety orientation and training program established in compliance with this Subsection may include, as a condition of satisfactory completion, a course in child cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Participation in a safety orientation and training program by a coach, manager, athletic trainer, team volunteer ~~health-care~~ **healthcare** provider, or sports team official may be waived by the league prior to the individual's or person's participation in the sporting activities or in the practice thereof upon submission of appropriate documented evidence as to that individual's or person's proficiency in first aid and

1 safety, which may include a current certification in child cardiopulmonary
2 resuscitation.

3 * * *

4 D. For the purposes of this Section, the following phrases shall have the
5 meanings hereafter ascribed to them:

6 * * *

7 **(4) "Youth injury mitigation course" means a course approved by the**
8 **Louisiana Department of Health that includes instruction in all of the following:**

9 **(a) Emergency preparedness and planning and rehearsal for responding**
10 **to traumatic injuries sustained during youth athletic activities.**

11 **(b) Concussions and head trauma.**

12 **(c) Heat and extreme weather-related injuries.**

13 **(d) Musculoskeletal overuse, physical conditioning, recovery, and**
14 **training equipment usage.**

15 **(e) Heart defects and abnormalities leading to sudden cardiac death.**

16 Section 2. R.S. 40:1087.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

17 **§1087.2. Youth injury mitigation courses; approval process**

18 **A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall establish and administer**
19 **a process for approving courses that meet the requirements of a youth injury**
20 **mitigation course.**

21 **B. Completion of an approved youth injury mitigation course may be**
22 **used to satisfy the requirements of a safety orientation and training program in**
23 **R.S. 9:2798. Each youth injury mitigation course shall include instruction on the**
24 **following:**

25 **(1) Emergency preparedness and planning and rehearsal for responding**
26 **to traumatic injuries sustained during youth athletic activities.**

27 **(2) Heat and extreme weather-related injuries.**

28 **(3) Musculoskeletal overuse, physical conditioning, recovery, and**
29 **training equipment usage.**

30 **(4) Heart defects and abnormalities leading to sudden cardiac death.**

1 C. Not later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of this
 2 Section, the department shall publish and maintain on its official website a list
 3 of approved courses. The department shall annually review and update the list
 4 of approved injury mitigation courses.

5 D. The department may adopt rules, in accordance with the
 6 Administrative Procedure Act, as necessary to carry out the provisions of this
 7 Section.

8 E. This Section shall not require the department to spend its funds to pay
 9 for the development of the training courses provided in this Section. The
 10 department may accept donated online courses, provided that the donated
 11 courses are approved by the department.

12 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 13 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 14 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 15 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 16 effective on the day following such approval.

17 Section 4. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Coach Safely Act".

 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____