

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 632

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO YOUTH ATHLETES AND CONCUSSIONS; REPEALING SECTION 33-1625, IDAHO CODE, RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE INTENT, YOUTH ATHLETES AND CONCUSSION GUIDELINES; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1625, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS RELATING TO YOUTH ATHLETES AND CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section [33-1625](#), Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 33-1625, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1625. YOUTH ATHLETES -- CONCUSSION AND HEAD INJURY GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS. (1) The state board of education and the Idaho high school activities association shall provide access to appropriate guidelines and information that identify the signs and symptoms of a concussion and head injury and describe the nature and risk of concussion and head injury in accordance with standards of the centers for disease control and prevention through a link on the internet website of the board and the Idaho high school activities association.

(2) This section shall apply to any middle school, junior high school and high school in the state participating in or administering an organized athletic league or sport. For the purposes of this section, "youth athlete" or "athlete" means an individual who is eighteen (18) years of age or younger and who is a participant in any middle school, junior high school or high school athletic league or sport.

(3) At the beginning of each sports season before a youth athlete participates in any organized practice or game, the youth athlete and the youth athlete's parent or guardian shall receive the guidelines and information described in subsection (1) of this section from the school for which the athlete plays, and shall review the guidelines and information. Coaches, referees, game officials, game judges and athletic trainers shall review such guidelines and information upon employment and biannually thereafter.

(4) If during a practice or game or competition, it is reasonably suspected that a youth athlete has sustained a concussion or head injury and exhibits outward signs or symptoms of such, as defined by the centers for disease control and prevention, then the youth athlete shall be removed from play. Every Idaho middle school, junior high school and high school that participates in or offers an organized athletic league shall develop protocol to be followed for removing such athletes from play. Such protocol shall

1 be consistent with concussion and head injury guidelines of the centers for
2 disease control and prevention.

3 (5) An athlete may be returned to play once the athlete is evaluated and
4 authorized to return by a qualified health care professional who is trained
5 in the evaluation and management of concussions. For the purposes of this
6 section, "qualified health care professional" means and includes any one (1)
7 of the following who is trained in the evaluation and management of concus-
8 sions:

9 (a) A physician or physician assistant licensed under chapter 18, title
10 54, Idaho Code;

11 (b) An advanced practice nurse licensed under section 54-1409, Idaho
12 Code; or

13 (c) A licensed health care professional trained in the evaluation and
14 management of concussions who is supervised by a directing physician
15 who is licensed under chapter 18, title 54, Idaho Code.

16 (6) If an individual reasonably acts in accordance with the protocol
17 developed pursuant to subsection (4) of this section, then acting upon such
18 protocol shall not form the basis of a claim for negligence in a civil action.

19 (7) Any youth sport organization or association in this state may com-
20 ply with this section. If a youth sport organization or association is in
21 full compliance with this section, then the youth sport organization or as-
22 sociation shall be afforded the same protections from liability in a civil
23 action pursuant to subsection (6) of this section.