BILL SUMMARY

2nd Session of the 54th Legislature

Bill No.: SB 1790
Version: CS
Request Number: N/A
Author: Rep. Jackson
Date: 4/7/2014
Impact: \$7,950 first yr. cost to Dept. of Health

Possible costs to school districts and youth sports organizations

Research Analysis

The committee substitute requires volunteer coaches or staff of youth sports organizations to annually complete concussion training. Completion certificates must be kept on file with the organization. Additionally, it stipulates that a youth sports organization employee or volunteer cannot be held liable unless gross negligence or willful, wanton, or intentional misconduct occurs.

The measure requires coaches and officials or referees within a school district to go through concussion training provided by the CDC or comparable program or resource. A record of completion must be leapt on file with the district school board. In the event that a youth athlete exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or head injury, the athlete must be removed by licensed athletic trainer, their coach, or an official or referee. Once removed, the athlete cannot return to practice or competition that same day until they have been evaluated by a licensed health care provider. The measure provides penalties for failing to remove such an athlete and for allowing them to return prior to having an evaluation and written documentation for their return to practice or competition. Public, private, and charter schools must implement a return to learn protocol.

Annually, youth sports organizations must provide parents with an informational sheet concerning concussions and head injuries. Youth sports organizations must also remove youth athletes that exhibit signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion or head injury. The athlete will not be eligible to return to practice or competition that same day until they have been evaluated by a licensed health care provider. Additionally, the State Department of Health must develop a concussion and head injury information sheet for participants in interscholastic athletics and youth sports organizations. The informational sheet must be made available on their website as well as provide a link to free online trainings programs in recognizing the symptoms of concussion and head injuries.

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Fiscal Analysis

State Department of Health personnel provide that first year costs of \$7,950 include personnel time for creating and updating informational sheets, answering inquiries, posting information on the web, and printing. Centers for Disease Control Prevention online training is free, however school districts and youth organizations may incur costs for other comparable programs and materials.

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Other Considerations
None at this time.

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