

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 1825

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
215th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2012 SESSION

Sponsored by:

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District 7 (Burlington)

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District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

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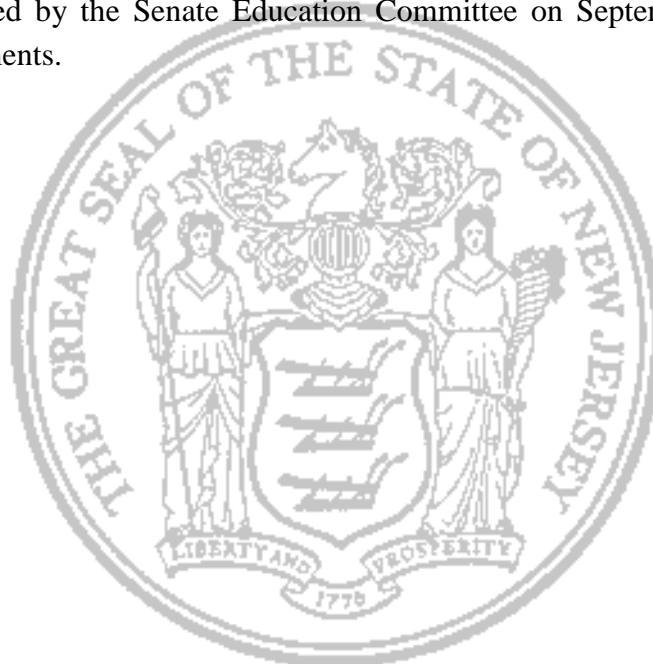
Assemblymen Diegnan, Eustace, Senators Weinberg and Allen

SYNOPSIS

Requires DOE to develop educational fact sheet for distribution to parents concerning sports-related eye injuries.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Education Committee on September 12, 2013, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/19/2013)

1 AN ACT concerning protective eyewear for children participating in
2 sports and supplementing chapter 40 of Title 18A of the New
3 Jersey Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 ¹1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

9 a. Eye injuries are the leading cause of preventable blindness
10 and visual impairment in children, and most injuries occurring in
11 school-aged children are sports-related;

12 b. Every 16 minutes a child incurs a sports-related eye injury
13 severe enough to require a visit to the emergency room;

14 c. According to Prevent Blindness America, 90% of all eye
15 injuries can be avoided by the use of appropriate eye protection;
16 and

17 d. It is necessary and prudent to educate parents and children
18 about sports-related eye injuries in order to reduce the needless loss
19 of sight that can occur during sports activities.¹

20
21 ¹[1.] 2.¹ a. The Commissioner of Education ¹[, in
22 consultation with the Commissioner of Health,]¹ shall develop ¹[by
23 the 2013-2014 school year] within 120 days of the effective date of
24 this act¹, an educational fact sheet that provides information about
25 sports-related eye injuries. The educational fact sheet shall include,
26 but need not be limited to:

27 (1) a list of the most common sports-related eye injuries and the
28 recognition of the symptoms of those injuries;

29 (2) a recommendation that children seek treatment and advice
30 from a licensed health care professional regarding the appropriate
31 amount of time to delay the return to sports competition or practice
32 after sustaining an eye injury;

33 (3) a recommendation that all children participating in school
34 sports or recreational sports wear protective eyewear;

35 (4) information concerning the purchase of appropriate
36 protective eyewear; and

37 (5) any other information the commissioner deems appropriate.

38 b. Each school district and nonpublic school shall distribute the
39 educational fact sheet annually to the parents or guardians of the
40 students.

41
42 ¹[2. a. As used in this section, a “youth sports team organization”
43 means one or more sports teams organized pursuant to a nonprofit

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate SED committee amendments adopted September 12, 2013.

1 or similar charter or which are member teams in a league organized
2 by or affiliated with a county or municipal recreation department.
3 b. A youth sports team organization shall request from the
4 Department of Education a copy of the educational fact sheet
5 developed pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
6 before the Legislature as this bill) for distribution to the parents or
7 guardians of children who participate on the youth sports team. The
8 organization shall obtain a signed acknowledgment of the receipt of
9 the fact sheet by the child and his parent or guardian.】¹
10
11 3. This act shall take effect immediately.