

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4754

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 9, 2019

The Assembly Education Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4754 with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill requires each school district which is a member of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association to adopt the association's "Heat Participation Policy" for conducting practice or games in all sports during times of high heat or humidity. Under the bill, the association's policy must address:

- the scheduling of practice or games during times of various heat and humidity levels;
- the ratio of time devoted to workouts to time allotted for rest and hydration during various heat and humidity levels; and
- the heat and humidity levels at which practice or games will be canceled.

Under the bill, guidelines included in the association's policy will provide a default policy to those responsible or sharing duties for making decisions concerning the implementation of modifications or cancellation of practices or games based on the presence of heat and humidity.

The bill also requires these school districts to purchase a WetBulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) tool to measure the heat stress in direct sunlight at the practice or game site. Heat stress consists of temperature, humidity, wind speed, the angle of the sun, and cloud coverage.

As amended and reported by the committee, this bill is identical to Senate Bill No. 2443 (1R), which was also reported by the committee on this same date.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

- refer to the "Heat Participation Policy" that has been adopted by the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association, which sets standards for both practices and games; and
- make the bill's provisions also applicable to games. The bill as introduced only referenced practices.