

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 679

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Co-Sponsored by:

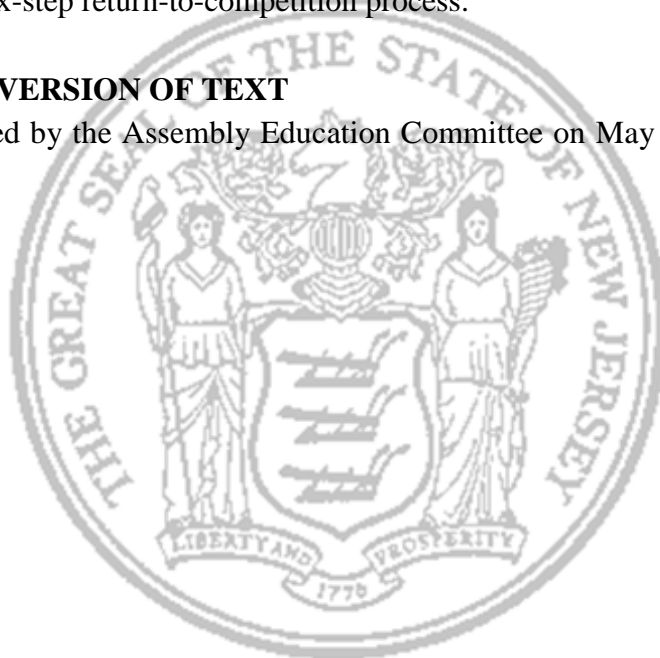
Assemblyman McKeon

SYNOPSIS

Provides that student-athlete who sustains concussion must return to regular school activities prior to return to competition; requires school districts to implement six-step return-to-competition process.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Education Committee on May 12, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the safety of certain student-athletes and
2 amending and supplementing P.L.2010, c.94.

3

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

6

7 1. (New section) Within 180 days of the effective date of
8 P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
9 the Department of Education shall revise the athletic head injury
10 safety training program established pursuant to section 2 of
11 P.L.2010, c.94 (C.18A:40-41.2) to include information on the
12 graduated, ¹**["five-step"] six-step**¹ "Return to Play Progression"
13 recommendations developed by the Centers for Disease Control and
14 Prevention. ¹The department shall revise the athletic head injury
15 safety program established pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2010, c.94
16 (C.18A:40-41.2) whenever the Centers for Disease Control and
17 Prevention changes or otherwise updates the "Return to Play
18 Progression" recommendations.¹

19

20 2. (New section) ¹**["Within 180 days of the effective date of**
21 **P.L., c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill)"]**
22 In the 2021-2022 school year¹, a school district shall revise its
23 written policy established pursuant to section 3 of P.L.2010, c.94
24 (C.18A:40-41.3) to include the graduated, ¹**["five-step"] six-step**¹
25 "Return to Play Progression" recommendations developed by the
26 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ¹A school district shall
27 revise its written policy established pursuant to section 3 of
28 P.L.2010, c.94 (C.18A:40-41.3) whenever the Centers for Disease
29 Control and Prevention changes or otherwise updates the "Return to
30 Play Progression" recommendations.¹

31

32 3. Section 4 of P.L.2010, c.94 (C.18A:40-41.4) is amended to
33 read as follows:

34 4. A student who participates in an interscholastic sports
35 program, intramural sports program, or cheerleading program and
36 who sustains or is suspected of having sustained a concussion or
37 other head injury while engaged in a competition or practice shall
38 be immediately removed from the competition or practice. A
39 student-athlete or cheerleader who is removed from competition or
40 practice shall not participate in further sports or cheerleading
41 activity until:

42 a. ¹**["he"] the student-athlete or cheerleader**¹ is evaluated by a
43 physician or other licensed healthcare provider trained in the

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:

¹Assembly AED committee amendments adopted May 12, 2021.

1 evaluation and management of concussions, and receives written
2 clearance from a physician trained in the evaluation and
3 management of concussions to return to competition or practice;
4 and

5 b. ¹~~[[he]~~ the student-athlete or cheerleader¹ returns to regular
6 school activities and is no longer experiencing symptoms of the
7 injury when conducting those activities.

8 The return of a student-athlete or cheerleader to competition or
9 practice shall be in accordance with the graduated, ¹~~[[five-step]~~ six-
10 step¹ “Return to Play Progression” recommendations ¹and any
11 subsequent changes or other updates to those recommendations as¹
12 developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

13 (cf: P.L.2017, c.105, s.2)

14

15 4. This act shall take effect immediately.