

SENATE, No. 2429

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 7, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator JOSEPH A. LAGANA

District 38 (Bergen and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Directs Commissioner of Education to develop sexual assault prevention training program for high school athletic directors and coaches of interscholastic sports programs.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning sexual assault prevention training in Statewide
2 interscholastic sports programs and supplementing chapter 11 of
3 Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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8 1. a. The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the
9 Director of the Division of Criminal Justice, shall develop an
10 interscholastic sports sexual assault prevention training program for
11 high school athletic directors and coaches. The training program
12 shall provide:

13 (1) instruction concerning the prevention of sexual assault and
14 the identification of signs of sexual assault; and

15 (2) information concerning the services, including treatment,
16 counseling, legal, and medical services, available to a victim of
17 sexual assault in accordance with the standard protocols developed
18 by the Attorney General pursuant to subsection d. of section 6 of
19 P.L.1985, c.404 (C.52:4B-44).

20 The commissioner shall update the training program as necessary
21 to ensure that it reflects the most current information available on
22 sexual assault prevention.

23 b. The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association
24 shall require each person who coaches a public school district or
25 nonpublic school interscholastic high school sport, and an athletic
26 director who oversees a public school district or nonpublic school
27 interscholastic high school sports program, to complete the training
28 program established pursuant to subsection a. of this section every
29 four years.

30 Each newly appointed coach or athletic director shall initially
31 complete the training program during his first year in that position.

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33 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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38 This bill requires the Commissioner of Education, in consultation
39 with the Director of the Division of Criminal Justice, to develop an
40 interscholastic sports sexual assault prevention training program for
41 high school athletic directors and coaches. Under the bill, the
42 training program is required to provide:

- 43 • instruction concerning the prevention of sexual assault and
- 44 the identification of signs of sexual assault; and
- 45 • information concerning the services, including treatment,
- 46 counseling, legal, and medical services, available to a
- 47 victim of sexual assault in accordance with the standard

1 protocols that have been developed by the Attorney General
2 in accordance with current law.

3 The bill also requires the New Jersey State Interscholastic
4 Athletic Association to require each person who coaches a public
5 school district or nonpublic school interscholastic high school sport,
6 and an athletic director who oversees a public school district or
7 nonpublic school interscholastic high school sports program, to
8 complete the training program every four years. Under the bill,
9 each newly appointed coach or athletic director must initially
10 complete the training program during his first year in that position.