

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 2156

An act relating to the Florida High School Activities Association; amending s. 1006.18, F.S.; providing technical revisions; amending s. 1006.20, F.S.; renaming the association as the Florida High School Athletic Association; revising the procedures for students' physical examinations; revising membership of the board of directors; deleting obsolete provisions; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 1006.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1006.18 Cheerleader safety standards.—The Florida High School ~~Athletic Activities~~ Association or successor organization shall adopt statewide uniform safety standards for student cheerleaders and spirit groups that participate in any school activity or extracurricular student activity. The Florida High School ~~Athletic Activities~~ Association or successor organization shall adopt the “Official High School Spirit Rules,” published by the National Federation of State High School Associations, as the statewide uniform safety standards.

Section 2. Subsection (10) of section 1006.20, Florida Statutes, is repealed, and subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (2), and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of that section are amended to read:

1006.20 Athletics in public K-12 schools.—

(1) GOVERNING NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The Florida High School ~~Athletic Activities~~ Association is designated as the governing nonprofit organization of athletics in Florida public schools. If the Florida High School ~~Athletic Activities~~ Association fails to meet the provisions of this section, the commissioner shall designate a nonprofit organization to govern athletics with the approval of the State Board of Education. The organization is not to be a state agency as defined in s. 120.52. The organization shall be subject to the provisions of s. 1006.19. A private school that wishes to engage in high school athletic competition with a public high school may become a member of the organization. The bylaws of the organization are to be the rules by which high school athletic programs in its member schools, and the students who participate in them, are governed, unless otherwise specifically provided by statute. For the purposes of this section, “high school” includes grades 6 through 12.

(2) ADOPTION OF BYLAWS.—

(c) The organization shall adopt bylaws that require all students participating in interscholastic athletic competition or who are candidates for an interscholastic athletic team to satisfactorily pass a medical evaluation each year prior to participating in interscholastic athletic competition or engaging in any practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated

with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team. Such medical evaluation can only be administered by a practitioner licensed under the provisions of chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or s. 464.012, and in good standing with the practitioner's regulatory board. The bylaws shall establish requirements for eliciting a student's medical history and performing the medical evaluation required under this paragraph, which shall include a physical assessment of the student's minimum standards for the physical capabilities to participate necessary for participation in interscholastic athletic competition as contained in a uniform preparticipation physical evaluation form. The evaluation form shall provide a place for the signature of the practitioner performing the evaluation with an attestation that each examination procedure listed on the form was performed by the practitioner or by someone under the direct supervision of the practitioner. The form shall also contain a place for the practitioner to indicate if a referral to another practitioner was made in lieu of completion of a certain examination procedure. The form shall provide a place for the practitioner to whom the student was referred to complete the remaining sections and attest to that portion of the examination. The preparticipation physical evaluation form shall advise students to complete a cardiovascular assessment and shall include information concerning alternative cardiovascular evaluation and diagnostic tests. Practitioners administering medical evaluations pursuant to this subsection must, at a minimum, solicit all information required by, and perform a physical assessment according to, the uniform preparticipation form referred to in this paragraph and must certify, based on the information provided and the physical assessment, that the student is physically capable of participating in interscholastic athletic competition ~~know the minimum standards established by the organization and certify that the student meets the standards.~~ If the practitioner determines that there are any abnormal findings in the cardiovascular system, the student may not participate until a further cardiovascular assessment, which may include an EKG, is performed which indicates that the student is physically capable of participating in interscholastic athletic competition unless a subsequent EKG or other cardiovascular assessment indicates that the abnormality will not place the student at risk during such participation. Results of such medical evaluation must be provided to the school. No student shall be eligible to participate in any interscholastic athletic competition or engage in any practice, tryout, workout, or other physical activity associated with the student's candidacy for an interscholastic athletic team until the results of the medical evaluation clearing verifying that the student for participation has satisfactorily passed the evaluation have been received and approved by the school.

(4) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(a) The executive authority of the organization shall be vested in its board of directors. Any entity that appoints members to the board of directors shall examine the ethnic and demographic composition of the board when selecting candidates for appointment and shall, to the greatest extent possible, make appointments that reflect state demographic and population trends. The board of directors shall be composed of 16 ~~15~~ persons, as follows:

1. Four public member school representatives, one elected from among its public school representative members within each of the four administrative regions.
2. Four nonpublic member school representatives, one elected from among its nonpublic school representative members within each of the four administrative regions.
3. Three ~~Two~~ representatives appointed by the commissioner, one appointed from the two northernmost administrative regions and one appointed from the two southernmost administrative regions. The third representative shall be appointed to balance the board for diversity or state population trends, or both.
4. Two district school superintendents, one elected from the two northernmost administrative regions by the members in those regions and one elected from the two southernmost administrative regions by the members in those regions.
5. Two district school board members, one elected from the two northernmost administrative regions by the members in those regions and one elected from the two southernmost administrative regions by the members in those regions.
6. The commissioner or his or her designee from the department executive staff.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2003.