

HOUSE BILL 1332

F1, J1

4lr2489

By: Delegates Dumais, Barve, Busch, Hixson, Kaiser, Luedtke, McIntosh, A. Miller, Rosenberg, ~~and Walker~~ Walker, Cardin, Howard, Hammen, Pendergrass, Bromwell, Costa, Cullison, Donoghue, Elliott, Hubbard, A. Kelly, Kipke, Krebs, McDonough, Morhaim, Murphy, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Ready, Reznik, Tarrant, and V. Turner

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2014

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 8, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Sports Injuries in High School Female Athletes**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Sports Injuries in High
4 School Female Athletes; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the
5 Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;
7 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain
8 matters; requiring the Task Force to submit certain reports on its findings and
9 recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before
10 certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
11 the Task Force to Study Sports Injuries in High School Female Athletes.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That:

14 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Sports Injuries in High School Female
15 Athletes.

16 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President
2 of the Senate;

3 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of
4 the House;

5 (3) one representative of the State Board of Education with experience
6 related to high school sports programs, appointed by the chair of the State Board;

7 (4) one representative of the Department of Health and Mental
8 Hygiene with experience related to sports injuries or adolescent health, appointed by
9 the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene; and

10 (5) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

11 (i) one athletic trainer employed by a high school who is a
12 member of the National Athletic Trainers Association;

13 (ii) one orthopedic physician with experience in adolescent
14 female anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries;

15 (iii) one orthopedic physician with expertise in adolescent female
16 orthopedic ankle or shoulder injuries;

17 (iv) one physician with expertise in adolescent female concussion
18 injuries;

19 (v) one pediatrician with expertise in adolescent female health;

20 (vi) one epidemiologist with expertise in adolescent female
21 sports injuries;

22 ~~(vii)~~ (vii) one physical therapist with expertise in treating
23 ligamentous knee and orthopedic ankle injuries in adolescent female athletes;

24 ~~(viii)~~ (viii) one female varsity member of a high school soccer,
25 lacrosse, or basketball team who incurred an ACL injury while participating in a team
26 sport;

27 ~~(ix)~~ (ix) one high school athletic director with experience
28 coaching high school female athletes;

29 (x) one individual employed by an intercollegiate athletic
30 department at an institution of higher education in the State;

31 ~~(xi)~~ (xi) one coach of a high school girls' lacrosse team;

1 ~~(xii)~~ (xii) one coach of a high school girls' soccer team; and

2 ~~(xiii)~~ (xiii) one coach of a high school girls' basketball team.

3 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

4 (d) The State Department of Education shall provide staff for the Task Force.

5 (e) A member of the Task Force:

6 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

7 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
8 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

9 (f) The Task Force shall:

10 (1) review recent medical research regarding the nature and risks of
11 sports injuries incurred by high school female athletes, including concussions, ACL
12 injuries, shoulder injuries, and orthopedic ankle injuries;

13 (2) report on the rate of sports injuries incurred by high school female
14 athletes compared to high school male athletes in the State;

15 (3) study effective methods of reducing sports injuries incurred by
16 high school female athletes, including implementation of preventive measures such as
17 conditioning exercises and the use of protective equipment;

18 (4) establish protocols and standards for clearing a female athlete to
19 return to play following an injury, including treatment plans for such athletes;

20 (5) review statutes and regulations from other states regarding high
21 school programs designed to prevent the higher rate of injury of female athletes
22 compared to male athletes;

23 (6) study whether the State Department of Education should develop
24 statutory or regulatory requirements for high school female athletic programs for the
25 prevention of injuries; and

26 (7) make recommendations regarding injury prevention, including
27 whether high schools in the State should adopt policies that:

28 (i) limit the frequency and duration of practice;

29 (ii) restrict athletic maneuvers that endanger adolescent
30 females, such as heading a soccer ball;

1 (iii) promote a warm-up program consisting of specific
2 neuromuscular and proprioceptive training techniques, such as the Prevent Injury and
3 Enhance Performance Program (PEP); and

4 (iv) require the use of additional protective equipment for female
5 athletes.

6 (g) (1) On or before December 31, 2014, the Task Force shall submit an
7 interim report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in
8 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

9 (2) On or before December 1, 2015, the Task Force shall submit a final
10 report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with §
11 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

12 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
13 July 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the
14 end of December 31, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly,
15 this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.