

HOUSE BILL 1308

F1, J1

9lr2948

By: **Delegate Hill**

Introduced and read first time: February 14, 2019

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Education – Public Schools and Youth Sports Programs – Tackle Football**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting a certain football season to certain months in a year;
4 prohibiting a county board of education or school from offering, approving, or
5 sponsoring football or certain physical activities related to football during certain
6 months in a year; prohibiting a youth sports program from providing certain physical
7 activities related to football during certain months in a year; defining certain terms;
8 and generally relating to tackle football for public schools and youth sports programs.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Education

11 Section 7–433.1

12 Annotated Code of Maryland

13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

15 Article – Health – General

16 Section 14–501(a)(1), (4), and (5)

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

19 BY adding to

20 Article – Health – General

21 Section 14–502

22 Annotated Code of Maryland

23 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
25 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

26 **Article – Education**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **7-433.1.**

2 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
3 INDICATED.

4 (2) "FOOTBALL" MEANS TACKLE FOOTBALL THAT IS PLAYED BY A
5 STUDENT IN AN ELEMENTARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL DURING:

6 (I) A COACH-SUPERVISED, SCHOOL-APPROVED, SPORTS- OR
7 CONDITIONING-RELATED ACTIVITY;

8 (II) AN INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC ACTIVITY;

9 (III) AN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ACTIVITY; OR

10 (IV) A PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM.

11 (3) "FOOTBALL SEASON" MEANS THE TIME PERIOD EACH YEAR IN
12 WHICH FOOTBALL MAY BE PLAYED BY A STUDENT OR MADE AVAILABLE FOR
13 STUDENTS BY A SCHOOL OR COUNTY BOARD, INCLUDING PRESEASON PRACTICES,
14 REGULAR SEASON PRACTICES, TOURNAMENTS, AND PLAYOFF GAMES.

15 (B) EACH ANNUAL FOOTBALL SEASON SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE MONTHS
16 OF AUGUST THROUGH DECEMBER.

17 (C) A COUNTY BOARD OR SCHOOL MAY NOT OFFER, APPROVE, OR SPONSOR
18 FOOTBALL OR ANY PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RELATED TO FOOTBALL FOR STUDENTS
19 DURING THE MONTHS OF JANUARY THROUGH JULY.

20 **Article - Health - General**

21 14-501.

22 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

23 (4) "Youth athlete" means an individual who participates in an athletic
24 activity in association with a youth sports program conducted:

25 (i) At a public school facility; or

26 (ii) By a recreational athletic organization.

27 (5) "Youth sports program" means a program organized for recreational

1 athletic competition or instruction for participants who are under the age of 19 years.

2 **14-502.**

3 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
4 INDICATED.

5 (2) "FOOTBALL" MEANS TACKLE FOOTBALL THAT IS PLAYED BY A
6 YOUTH ATHLETE IN A YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM.

7 (3) "FOOTBALL SEASON" MEANS THE TIME PERIOD EACH YEAR IN
8 WHICH FOOTBALL MAY BE PLAYED BY A YOUTH ATHLETE OR MADE AVAILABLE FOR
9 YOUTH ATHLETES BY A YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM, INCLUDING PRESEASON
10 PRACTICES, REGULAR SEASON PRACTICES, TOURNAMENTS, AND PLAYOFF GAMES.

11 (4) "YOUTH ATHLETE" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 14-501 OF
12 THIS SUBTITLE.

13 (5) "YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN §
14 14-501 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

15 (B) EACH ANNUAL FOOTBALL SEASON SHALL BE LIMITED TO THE MONTHS
16 OF AUGUST THROUGH DECEMBER.

17 (C) A YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM MAY NOT PROVIDE FOOTBALL OR ANY
18 PHYSICAL ACTIVITY RELATED TO FOOTBALL FOR YOUTH ATHLETES DURING THE
19 MONTHS OF JANUARY THROUGH JULY.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
21 1, 2019.