

HOUSE BILL 1235

J1, F1
HB 1346/20 – W&M

2lr2945

By: **Delegates Hill, Foley, Henson, Prettyman, and Ruth**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2022

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission to study
4 and make recommendations to minimize risk and maximize safety for youth
5 athletes; and generally relating to the Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission.

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
7 That:

8 (a) There is a Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission.

9 (b) The Commission consists of the following members:

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

12 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the
13 House;

14 (3) the State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent's
15 designee;

16 (4) the following members who have experience with youth sports safety or
17 treating youth sports injuries, appointed by the Governor on or before February 19, 2023:

18 (i) one representative of the Maryland Chapter of the American
19 Academy of Pediatrics;

20 (ii) one representative of the Maryland Academy of Family
21 Physicians;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (iii) one representative of the Society of Pediatric Psychology;
- 2 (iv) one representative of the Maryland Psychological Association;
- 3 (v) one representative of the American Academy of Clinical
4 Neuropsychology;
- 5 (vi) one representative of the Maryland Athletic Trainers
6 Association;
- 7 (vii) one representative of the Maryland Public Secondary Schools
8 Athletic Association who is a coach;
- 9 (viii) one representative of the Maryland Board of Football Officials;
- 10 (ix) one representative of the Medical Mutual Liability Insurance
11 Society of Maryland who is a risk management specialist;
- 12 (x) one pediatrician or family medicine practitioner;
- 13 (xi) one orthopedist;
- 14 (xii) one emergency medicine physician who treats pediatric patients;
- 15 (xiii) one pediatric cardiologist;
- 16 (xiv) one public health epidemiologist; and
- 17 (xv) one physical therapist.

18 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Commission.

19 (d) The Maryland Department of Health shall provide staff for the Commission.

20 (e) A member of the Commission:

21 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but

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

24 (f) The Commission shall:

25 (1) study evidence-based policies and practices for maximizing safety for
26 youth athletes at different age levels and stages of brain development based on national
27 research;

1 (2) seek input from nationally recognized youth sports oversight
2 organizations, including US Youth Soccer, USA Cheer, US Lacrosse, and USA Football;

3 (3) study ways to reduce injury risk levels to youth athletes at different
4 ages; and

5 (4) make recommendations for implementation of evidence-based best
6 practices for minimizing injury risk for youth athletes.

7 (g) On or before December 31, 2023, the Commission shall submit a report of its
8 findings and recommendations to the Governor, the State Board of Education, the
9 Maryland Department of Health, and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government
10 Article, the General Assembly.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 January 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of December
13 31, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
14 abrogated and of no further force and effect.