

## In this Issue

### **Alabama bill limiting compensation for high school coaches referred to committee**

**Number:** AL [R] HB 52 -

**Sponsor:** Rep. Craig Ford (DEM-AL)

**Title:** [Education, compensation, high school athletic coach limited to 75 percent of principals compensation](#)

**Status:** [Read for the first time and referred to the House of Representatives committee on Education Policy - 02/07/2017](#)

This bill would limit the total annual compensation paid by a local board of education to a high school athletic coach to 75 percent of the total annual compensation paid to the high school principal.

### **Arkansas home school interscholastic activities bill sent to the governor to be signed into law**

**Number:** AR [R] HB 1474 - Updated (Status 03/18/2017)

**Sponsor:** Rep. Mark Lowery (REP-AR)

**Title:** [CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES.](#)

### **Arkansas bill that creates a state tax deduction for certain teacher classroom expenses, including the purchasing of sports equipment, goes to the governor to be signed into law**

**Number:** AR [R] HB 1014 - Updated (Status 03/22/2017)

**Sponsor:** Rep. Greg Leding (DEM-AR)

**Title:** [TO CREATE THE TEACHER'S CLASSROOM INVESTMENT DEDUCTION.](#)

**Status:** [Correctly enrolled and ordered transmitted to the Governor's Office. - 03/22/2017](#)

### **[Montana bill would expand concussion rules in youth sports](#)**

A bill working its way through the Montana Legislature would require nonpublic schools and youth organizations to have those involved in athletic programs know about the risk of brain injuries, including the effects of continuing to play after a concussion. H.B. 487 is supported by the Montana Athletic Trainers Association and the Montana High School Association.

### **[Student athlete safety measure moves forward in North Carolina](#)**

State House lawmakers in Raleigh, NC are looking at new requirements for athletic programs in middle and high schools to lessen the number of injuries from sudden cardiac arrest, heatstroke and concussion. [House Bill 116](#) passed the House Health Committee on March 22.

## **Utah passes legislation similar to legislation being considered around the country to update the law governing athletic agents and their interactions with student athletes**

**Number:** UT [R] SB 243 - Updated (Status 03/23/2017)

**Sponsor:** Sen. Lyle Hillyard (REP-UT)

**Title:** [Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act](#)

**Abstract:** This bill modifies the Uniform Athlete Agents Act (the act).

**Status:** [Governor Signed - 03/21/2017](#)

## **Utah bill regulating public school participation in associations signed into law**

**Number:** UT [R] HB 413 - Updated (Status 03/23/2017)

**Sponsor:** Rep. Francis Gibson (REP-UT)

**Title:** [Public School Membership in Associations](#)

**Abstract:** This bill enacts language governing a public school's membership in certain associations.

**Status:** [Governor Signed - 03/21/2017](#)

- prohibits a public school from membership in certain associations after July 1,
- establishes requirements for the membership of an association governing body;
- requires an association to provide certain reports to the State Board of Education;
- requires an association to follow certain budgetary procedures;
- establishes an appeals panel to hear an appeal of certain decisions by an association;
- requires an association to comply with:
  - Open and Public Meetings Act;
  - Government Records Access and Management Act
  - Utah Public Officers' and Employees' Ethics Act

## **Health, Wellness, and Nutrition Update**

### **CDC has released a new report, "Traumatic Brain Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits, Hospitalizations, and Deaths — United States, 2007 and 2013"**

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) has short- and long-term adverse clinical outcomes, including death and disability. TBI can be caused by a number of principal mechanisms, including motor-vehicle crashes, falls, and assaults. This report describes the estimated incidence of TBI-related emergency department (ED) visits, hospitalizations, and deaths during 2013 and makes comparisons to similar estimates from 2007.

### **The President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition making available new Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA+) program**

The President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition recently announced that the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award (PALA+) is now officially integrated into SuperTracker, the USDA's free online food and activity tracking tool. For health educators and professionals, this means your students, patients, and clients have the ability to log individual food items and physical activities into their SuperTracker profile in order to complete the PALA+ program.

Benefits of using SuperTracker to achieve the PALA+ award include:

- Customized dietary recommendations, like food group, calorie and nutrient intake goals to help users work towards a healthy eating pattern
- An interactive SuperTracker dashboard to help visualize and monitor progress
- Motivational pop-up messages
- Use of SuperTracker's extensive food database
- Easy access to nutrition and physical activity educational information

### **CDC on March is National Brain Injury Awareness Month**

Keeping youth healthy and safe is a top priority for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [National Center for Injury Prevention and Control](#), which developed the [HEADS UP](#) initiative. The mission of HEADS UP is to help protect people of all ages, especially children and teens, from concussions and other serious brain injuries. Whether you are a parent, youth sports coach, school coach, school professional, or health care provider, the HEADS UP site will help you recognize, respond to, and minimize the risk of concussion or other serious brain injury.

#### **Do Your Part to Get Concussion Info on Every Sideline**

- Download the [HEADS UP concussion app](#).
- Customize your [website](#) and HEADS UP [fact sheets](#) with your team or school logo and colors.
- Take an [online training](#).
- Find other ways to [get involved](#).

## **Civil Rights Update**

### **How wheelchair athletes inspired a new racing company that offers running events for athletes with disabilities**

Shea Needham, an experienced race director and current training director for the Dallas Running Club, recently started her own company, Shea Racing LLC, to address the lack of running events for athletes with disabilities. Her mission is "to give athletes with disabilities the opportunity to compete in a sport with able-bodied athletes and show the world that there are no limits to what they can accomplish."

**Group says Collierville, TN schools favor boys' over girls' sports**

A group of Collierville High School parents and students came to the town's school board meeting on March 21 and said the system favors boys' sports over girls' sports in financing. School superintendent John Aitken said the system will look into the matter. The complaint highlights the culture of competitive sports and extracurricular activities in Collierville, where it's not uncommon for parents to pay hundreds of dollars for their children to play.

## Sports Safety Update

**The National Eye Institute discusses preventing youth eye injuries with protective eyewear while playing sports**

According to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, 90 percent of eye injuries could be prevented with better eye safety habits, like using protective eyewear. Safety goggles should be worn over prescription glasses or made to match your child's prescription. Eyewear should be made of ultra-strong polycarbonate for the best protection. Also, choose eyewear specifically made for your sport.

**Utah school district takes advantage of a National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) program that advances safe sports in high school**

In an attempt to keep high school student athletes free from injury the National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA) is formally recognizing secondary schools that take a series of recommended steps to keep their athletes free from injuries. The Iron County School District in Utah is the first school district in that state to have all three of its high schools designated as Safe Sport Schools. The schools are Canyon View High School, Parowan High School, and Cedar High School. Intermountain Sports Medicine manages the athletic trainers at each high school.