

STATE OF NEW YORK

1269--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 11, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. BENEDETTO, ABINANTI, DINOWITZ, MONTESANO, COOK, SEPULVEDA, JAFFEE, SIMON, MOSLEY, CARROLL, O'DONNELL -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. GALEF -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health -- recommitted to the Committee on Health in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to prohibiting children eleven years old and younger from playing tackle football

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "John Mackey youth football protection act".

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3 § 2. Article 25 of the public health law is amended by adding a new
4 title 7 to read as follows:

TITLE VII

YOUTH SPORTS

Section 2595. Prohibition of tackle football.

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8 § 2595. Prohibition of tackle football. 1. No child eleven years old
9 or younger shall play, practice, or otherwise engage in organized tackle
10 football; provided however, that nothing within this section shall
11 prohibit children thirteen years old and younger from playing, practic-
12 ing, or otherwise participating in any form of football which does not
13 involve tackling.

14 2. Any school, adult, or league or other entity whose purpose is to
15 allow children to participate in football, who allows children thirteen
16 years of age or younger to play, practice, or otherwise engage in tackle
17 football shall be liable for a civil penalty under the provisions of
18 title two of article one of this chapter.

19 3. For the purposes of this section:

20 (a) "Organized tackle football" shall include any practice, game or
21 other activity which involves engaging in tackle football and which is

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 organized by a school, adult, or public or private league or other enti-
2 ty whose purpose is to allow children to participate in contact foot-
3 ball.

4 (b) "Tackle" shall mean to physically impede the forward movement of a
5 player who is in possession of the ball to the extent that:

6 (i) the player's forward movement is stopped and the player is unable
7 to resume such forward movement; or

8 (ii) the player is forced to touch some part of his or her body to the
9 ground other than the player's hands or feet.

10 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.