

HB 1315 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2401

04/11

HOUSE BILL ***1315***

AN ACT relative to immunity from civil liability for sports officials.

SPONSORS: Rep. Mooney, Hills. 21; Rep. Healey, Hills. 21

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill immunizes a sports official from civil liability for an act that may cause damage or injury, except if such act is grossly negligent.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to immunity from civil liability for sports officials.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Section; Limitation of Actions; Sports Officials. Amend RSA 508 by inserting after
2 section 17-a the following new section:

3 508:17-b Sports Officials; Liability Limited.

4 I. Any person who acts as a sports official at an athletic event or activity sponsored by a
5 nonprofit or for-profit organization or governmental entity shall be immune from civil liability in any
6 action brought on the basis of any act or omission resulting in damage or injury to another person if:

7 (a) The sponsoring authority has a record indicating the official was properly scheduled
8 to officiate the specific game or event;

9 (b) The sports official was acting in good faith and within the scope of official functions
10 and duties during the sports event; and

11 (c) The damage or injury was not caused by willful or gross negligence by the official.

12 II. In this section, "sports official" means an individual who officiates any sporting event
13 who is a volunteer, receives compensation, or obtains reimbursement for expenses actually incurred
14 for rendering such services. A sports official shall possess proper certification from an accredited
15 sports association for the specific sport being officiated, or a validation of competence for the rules,
16 procedures, practices, and programs for the specific athletic activity being officiated from a local
17 youth association.

18 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.