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COUNTY OF ERIE
LOCAL LAW NO.____-2016
LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 2-4 2016

A LOCAL LAW PREVENTING HEAD TRAUMA FROM CONCUSSIONS IN YOUTH SPORTS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: LEGISLATIVE INTENT

Contact and collision sports such as football, hockey, and soccer have been an integral part of youth development in our community but there is growing evidence that concussions cause negative long-term health consequences. The intent of this legislation is to insure that all minors playing organized contact or collision youth sports in Erie County are properly supervised and that those who have been entrusted with the safety of minors are sufficiently trained in identifying concussion related symptoms.

Section 2: DEFINITIONS

a) Organized youth sport is defined as sport that is formally governed by an institution or organization.
b) Contact youth sport is defined as a sport in which the participants necessarily come into bodily contact with one another
c) Collision youth sport is defined as a sport where athletes purposely hit or collide with each other or inanimate objects, including the ground, with great force
d) Supervisor of minors playing contact youth sports hereby referred to as "supervisor" is defined as any coach, referee or official who acts in a supervisory or governing capacity on the field of play.
e) Short Notice is defined as within 2 weeks.

Section 3: REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPERVISORS

a) Any supervisor of minors playing organized contact or collision sports shall take a course in concussion safety.
b) Any organization facilitating organized contact or collision youth sports shall maintain a record that shows that those who supervise minors playing organized contact or collision youth sports within their organization have taken a course in concussion safety.
c) If a new supervisor is needed on short notice, the interim supervisor shall have no more than 2 weeks from the beginning of their duties to take a course in concussion safety.

Section 4: CONCUSSION SAFETY COURSES

a) The Erie County Department of Health shall facilitate no less than 4 concussion safety course per year. The content of this course shall be determined by the Commissioner of Health. The course shall be free of charge.
b) Acceptable alternatives to the County concussion safety course are the Center for Disease Control's HEADS UP to Youth Sports: Online Training or the NFHS Concussion in Sports Course or any concussion protocol training determined by the Erie County Department of Health to be equal to or greater than the Center for Disease Control's HEADS UP to Youth Sports course.

Section 4: ENFORCEMENT

a) The County Health Department will have the power to enforce this law.
b) The County Health Department shall notify to the best of their abilities all known youth sports organizations that participate in contact or collision sports that a concussion safety course is required for all supervisors of contact or collision youth sports.
c) Any organization facilitating contact or collision youth sports that cannot or will not produce records showing their supervisors have completed one of the defined courses on concussion safety upon request from the County Health Department shall be issued a $100 fine, subsequent violations within a calendar year shall result in a $200 fine.

Section 4: EFFECTIVE DATE

This local law shall become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Section 5: SEVERABILITY

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or the application thereof, to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity or circumstance, shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional such order of judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or I its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstances directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

SPONSOR: Legislator Patrick B. Burke
Legislator Joseph Lorigo