

SUSPENSION

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATORS MILLS, LORIGO, MORTON, RATH, HARDWICK, & DIXON

Re: Concussion Protocol Training for Coaches of Youth Sports

WHEREAS, youth sports are a major part of life for many of our community's youth and injuries are a part of the game for any sport where players may have contact with each other, the ground or sporting equipment; and

WHEREAS, concussions, and more specifically their prevention, have become the focus of many professional sport leagues and have been shown to have a detrimental impact on the brains of children; and

WHEREAS, almost all states, including New York State's Concussion Management and Awareness Act, have created rules and regulations in an attempt to curb the occurrence of concussions in youth sports; and

WHEREAS, many of the youth sports organizations across the country should be commended for having worked to implement concussion awareness protocols and safety measures to guide their sports; and

WHEREAS, private sports leagues and organizations like USA Hockey, US Soccer, Pop Warner, and USA Gymnastics have created their own rules and regulations governing participants in their respective sports across the nation and are requiring medical training for coaches to recognize concussions and often for the provision of medical professionals at all games or competitions; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this body to ensure that the smaller leagues and organizations in our county have the opportunity to get training programs put in place for no fee so that any coach in any organization so that whether the coach is a volunteer or a paid employee our children are protected.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body hereby encourages all youth coaches to attend training for concussion awareness in their respective sports at least every other year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Health is hereby directed to hold a minimum of four (4) training seminars each year, with coursework provided that would satisfy the Department of Education's Guidelines for Concussion Management in the School Setting adopted pursuant to the New York State Concussion Management and Awareness Act; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Erie County Executive, the Department of Health, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None for resolution