

1-1 By: Thompson of Brazoria, et al. H.B. No. 1775
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Hancock)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 9, 2013;
 1-4 May 9, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-5 Education; May 17, 2013, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-6 Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 17, 2013, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13			X	
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to the authority of the University Interscholastic League
 1-21 regarding activities involving sports officials.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 33, Education Code, is
 1-24 amended by adding Section 33.085 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 33.085. AUTHORITY OF UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC
 1-26 LEAGUE REGARDING ACTIVITIES INVOLVING SPORTS OFFICIALS. (a) In
 1-27 this section:

1-28 (1) "League" means the University Interscholastic
 1-29 League.

1-30 (2) "Sports official" means a person who officiates,
 1-31 judges, or in any manner enforces contest rules in any official
 1-32 capacity with respect to and during the course of an
 1-33 interscholastic athletic team competition and who is a member of a
 1-34 league-recognized local chapter or association of sports
 1-35 officials. The term includes a referee, umpire, linesman, judge,
 1-36 or any other person similarly involved in supervising competitive
 1-37 play. The term does not include a league board member or a league
 1-38 official who is acting in an official capacity to supervise,
 1-39 administer, or enforce the league constitution or league contest
 1-40 rules.

1-41 (b) The league may require a sports official, as a condition
 1-42 of eligibility to officiate a contest sponsored by the league, to:

1-43 (1) be registered with the league and comply with the
 1-44 registration requirements of Subsection (c);

1-45 (2) have completed initial and continuing education
 1-46 programs regarding league rules;

1-47 (3) be a member in good standing of a local chapter or
 1-48 association of sports officials recognized by the league for that
 1-49 purpose; and

1-50 (4) agree to abide by league rules, including fee
 1-51 schedules and travel reimbursement guidelines for payment by school
 1-52 districts or open-enrollment charter schools to a sports official.

1-53 (c) In registering with the league, a sports official must
 1-54 be required to provide directory information required by the league
 1-55 and submit to a criminal background check.

1-56 (d) The league may not charge a sports official who
 1-57 completes a program under Subsection (b)(2) a fee for more than one
 1-58 program described by Subsection (b)(2).

1-59 (e) The league may charge and collect a registration fee
 1-60 only to defray the cost of registering sports officials and shall
 1-61 post the amount of the fee on the league's Internet website and make

2-1 the information available at other places the league determines
 2-2 appropriate. The amount of the fee may not exceed the amount
 2-3 reasonably determined by the league to be necessary to cover the
 2-4 cost of administering registration.

2-5 (f) The league may revoke or suspend the league registration
 2-6 of a sports official determined by the league to have violated the
 2-7 provisions of the league constitution or contest rules governing
 2-8 sports officials or other league policy applicable to sports
 2-9 officials. Before the league may take action to revoke or suspend a
 2-10 sports official's registration, the league shall notify and consult
 2-11 with the local chapter or association of sports officials of which
 2-12 the sports official is a member. The local chapter or association
 2-13 may, on or before the 15th day after the date notice is received
 2-14 from the league, take action to adjudicate the alleged violation.
 2-15 If after the 15th day after the date notice is received from the
 2-16 league the local chapter or association has failed to take action
 2-17 against the sports official or takes action that the league finds to
 2-18 be insufficient, the league may take action against the sports
 2-19 official. The league shall adopt rules to provide a sports official
 2-20 with the opportunity for an appeals process before the league
 2-21 revokes or suspends the sports official's registration. In adopting
 2-22 rules under this subsection, the league shall make a determination
 2-23 of the actions and subsequent sanctions that would be considered
 2-24 sufficient under this subsection.

2-25 (g) The league may not sponsor or organize or attempt to
 2-26 sponsor or organize any association of sports officials in which
 2-27 the majority of the membership is composed of sports officials who
 2-28 officiate team sports.

2-29 (h) The league may set rates or fee schedules payable by a
 2-30 school district or open-enrollment charter school to a sports
 2-31 official.

2-32 (i) Before the league may take any action that amends rules
 2-33 related to the activities of sports officials, other than an action
 2-34 against an individual sports official under Subsection (f), the
 2-35 league must submit the proposed action for public review and
 2-36 comment, including:

2-37 (1) notifying registered sports officials of the
 2-38 proposed action by e-mail not later than the 30th day before the
 2-39 date set for action on the proposal; and

2-40 (2) posting the proposal on the league's Internet
 2-41 website for at least 30 consecutive days before the date set for
 2-42 action on the proposal.

2-43 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 2-44 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 2-45 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 2-46 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 2-47 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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