
HOUSE BILL 1877

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives MacEwen, Johnson, and Ormsby

Read first time 02/02/15. Referred to Committee on Business & Financial Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring fines and assessments against
2 professional athletes be donated to charity; and adding a new chapter
3 to Title 19 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that professional
6 sports organizations levy substantial fines and penalties against
7 athletes in Washington state. The professional sports organizations
8 then use proceeds from the fines and penalties for various internal
9 purposes. The legislature finds that these moneys would be better
10 utilized for a public benefit by requiring the fines and penalties be
11 directed to a charitable organization of the athlete's choosing. This
12 will encourage fair assessment of fines and penalties and
13 simultaneously provide significant benefit to Washington communities.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The definitions in this section apply
15 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
16 otherwise.

17 (1) "Professional sports organization" is any professional sports
18 franchise operating in the state or the national organization
19 including, but not limited to, the national football league.

1 (2) "Professional-sports-services contract" has the same meaning
2 as in RCW 19.225.010.

3 (3) "Charitable organization" means any 501(c)(3) organization
4 registered in the state at the time of the donation.

5 (4) "Fine" and "penalty" means any monetary assessment against an
6 athlete by the professional sports organization for violating the
7 professional-sports-services contract or organization policy or rule.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If an athlete employed by a professional
9 sports organization is assessed a fine or penalty, the entire amount
10 of the fine or penalty must be paid to a charitable organization of
11 the athlete's choosing. The payment to the charitable organization
12 must occur within the time frame specified by the fine or penalty
13 assessment. The professional sports organization cannot require the
14 athlete to pay any amount of the fine or penalty to the professional
15 sports organization.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 through 3 of this act
17 constitute a new chapter in Title 19 RCW.

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