

FINAL BILL REPORT

SHB 1275

C 143 L 23
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning athletic trainers.

Sponsors: House Committee on Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Thai, Harris and Riccelli).

House Committee on Health Care & Wellness
Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care

Background:

Applicants for an athletic trainer license must provide proof of successfully completing one of the following:

- any accredited educational program accepted by the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer (BOC) as meeting the requirements to sit for the certification examination; or
- completion of a bachelors or advanced degree attained prior to January 1, 2004, including at a minimum:
 - course work in human anatomy, kinesiology, human physiology, exercise physiology, and health (such as nutrition, drug and substance use, health education, personal health and wellness, or a course in pathology, pathophysiology, or pharmacology); and
 - completion of an internship with a minimum of 1,500 practical hours under direct supervision of an athletic trainer certified by the BOC.

Athletic trainers are licensed by the Department of Health to provide a variety of services including risk management and prevention of athletic injuries; immediate care of athletic injuries; treatment, rehabilitation, and reconditioning of athletic injuries and work-related injuries in accordance with guidelines established with a licensed health care provider; and referral of an athlete to an appropriately licensed health care provider.

An athletic trainer may purchase, store, and administer over-the-counter topical medications

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such as hydrocortisone, fluocinonide, topical anesthetics, silver sulfadiazine, lidocaine, magnesium sulfate, zinc oxide, and other similar medications, as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner for the practice of athletic training.

"Athlete" is defined as a person who participates in exercise, recreation, sport, or games requiring physical strength, range-of-motion, flexibility, body awareness and control, speed, stamina, or agility, and the exercise, recreation, sports, or games are of a type conducted in association with an educational institution or professional, amateur, or recreational sports club or organization.

"Athletic injury" means an injury or condition sustained by an athlete that affects the person's participation or performance in exercise, recreation, sport, or games and the injury or condition is within the professional preparation and education of an athletic trainer.

"Athletic trainer" means a person who is licensed under the athletic trainer chapter who can practice athletic training through the consultation, referral, or guidelines of a licensed health care provider working within their scope of practice.

Summary:

Athletic trainers are authorized to purchase, store, and administer over-the-counter medications as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner for the practice of athletic training. Athletic trainers who have completed accredited training programs on pharmacology and medication administration may purchase, store, and administer medications in accordance with the programs, as prescribed by an authorized health care practitioner for the practice of athletic training.

References to over-the-counter topical medications are removed.

The definition of "athletic injury" is modified to include "activities." The definition of "athlete" is modified to include "activities" and includes exercise, recreation, activities, sports, or games that are of a type conducted for the benefits of health and wellness in association with an educational institution or professional, amateur, recreational sports club or organization, hospital, or industrial-based organization. The definition of "athletic trainer" is modified so that it refers to a health care provider, rather than a person, licensed under the athletic trainer statutes.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	95	0
Senate	48	0

Effective: July 23, 2023