

HOUSE BILL 523

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

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AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS; REQUIRING EACH PERSON HIRED TO
COACH A SCHOOL ATHLETIC ACTIVITY TO BE TESTED FOR ILLICIT AND
PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the School Personnel Act is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] ATHLETICS--DRUG TESTING OF COACHES.--

A. A person hired to coach a school athletic
activity shall be tested for illicit and prescription drug
abuse prior to employment and subject to random drug testing
thereafter, with at least one drug test annually.

B. A coach who is reasonably suspected of abusing
illicit or prescription drugs shall undergo drug testing
without prior notice to the coach.

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1 C. A coach who fails a drug test shall be tested
2 again within three days of the initial test. If a coach who
3 fails a drug test continues to be employed by the school
4 district as a coach, the coach shall submit to weekly drug
5 tests for no less than one year.

6 D. Each school district shall establish policies,
7 in consultation with the New Mexico activities association or
8 any successor organization, concerning:

9 (1) when a coach is reasonably suspected of
10 abusing illicit or prescription drugs;

11 (2) the protocol governing testing for illicit
12 and prescription drugs; and

13 (3) any disciplinary action, addiction
14 interventions or fines pursuant to this section.

15 E. As used in this section:

16 (1) "illicit or prescription drug" means a
17 substance listed in any of Schedules I through V of the
18 Controlled Substances Act; and

19 (2) "school athletic activity" means a
20 sanctioned middle school, junior high school or senior high
21 school athletic function."

22 **SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**--The effective date of the
23 provisions of this act is July 1, 2015.

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