

**E N R O L L E D**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

**H. B. 2548**

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(BY DELEGATE(S) FERRO, STOWERS, PETHTEL,  
SWARTZMILLER, STORCH, MARCUM, BOGGS, FERNS,  
POLING, D., DISERIO, AND PHILLIPS, L.)

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[Passed April 12, 2013; in effect ninety days from passage.]

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AN ACT to amend and reenact §61-2-15a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to increasing the criminal penalties for assaults and batteries against athletic officials.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §61-2-15a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 2. CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON.**

**§61-2-15a. Assault, battery on athletic officials; penalties.**

1 (a) If any person commits an assault as defined in subsection  
2 (b), section nine of this article, to the person of an athletic  
3 official during the time the official is acting as an athletic  
4 official, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon  
5 conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$500, or  
6 confined in jail not more than six months, or both fined and  
7 confined.

8 (b) If any person commits a battery, as defined in subsection  
9 (c), section nine of this article, against an athletic official during  
10 the time the official is acting as an athletic official, the offender  
11 is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall  
12 be fined not more than \$1,000, or confined in jail not more than  
13 twelve months, or both fined and confined.

14 (c) For the purpose of this section, “athletic official” means  
15 a person at a sports event who enforces the rules of that event,  
16 such as an umpire or referee, or a person who supervises the  
17 participants, such as a coach.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

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*Chairman, House Committee*

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*Chairman, Senate Committee*

Originating in the House.

In effect ninety days from passage.

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*Clerk of the House of Delegates*

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*Clerk of the Senate*

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*Speaker of the House of Delegates*

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*President of the Senate*

The within \_\_\_\_\_ this the \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

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*Governor*

