

House Bill 817

By: Representatives Sharper of the 177th, Shaw of the 176th, Corbett of the 174th, Carter of the 175th, Waites of the 60th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to miscellaneous provisions regarding elementary and secondary
3 education, so as to require that certain youth athletes receive instruction in baseball dugout
4 safety; to encourage that baseball dugouts housing youth athletes during certain baseball
5 games have protective covering; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 15 of Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to miscellaneous provisions regarding elementary and secondary education, is
11 amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "20-2-324.2.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

14 (1) 'Public recreation facility' shall have the same meaning as provided for in Code
15 Section 20-2-324.1.

16 (2) 'Youth athlete' shall have the same meaning as provided for in Code Section
17 20-2-324.1.

18 (b) Every local board of education, nonpublic elementary or secondary school, governing
19 body of a charter school, or public recreation facility shall, at the beginning of each
20 baseball season, render instruction on dugout safety to youth athletes participating in the
21 sport of baseball. Such instruction shall include, but not be limited to, instruction on being
22 aware of high velocity baseballs which may enter a dugout during a baseball game and the
23 importance of remaining attentive to such possibility.

24 (c) Every baseball dugout housing youth athletes during a baseball game as an activity of
25 a local board of education, nonpublic elementary or secondary school, governing body of

26 a charter school, or public recreation facility is encouraged to be protected overhead and
27 on all sides. Such protection may include, but not be limited to, netting."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.