

(b) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE AMATEUR SPORTS ORGANIZATION.—In this section, the term “applicable amateur sports organization” means an amateur sports organization—

- (1) that is not otherwise subject to the requirements under subchapter III;
- (2) that participates in an interstate or international amateur athletic competition; and
- (3) whose membership includes any adult who is in regular contact with an amateur athlete who is a minor.

(Added Pub. L. 115–126, title II, §204(a), Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 324.)

SUBCHAPTER III<sup>1</sup>—GRANT TO KEEP  
YOUNG ATHLETES SAFE

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 115–141, div. S, title III, §302(a), Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1127, which directed the addition of subchapter III, consisting of section 220531, at the end of chapter 2205, was executed by adding such subchapter III after subchapter II of chapter 2205, to reflect the probable intent of Congress and the intervening addition of a subchapter III, consisting of sections 220541 to 220543, by Pub. L. 115–126, title II, §202(a), Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 320.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–141, div. S, title III, §302(a), Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1127, added subchapter heading.

§ 220531. Grant to protect young athletes from abuse

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General may award a grant to an eligible nonprofit nongovernmental entity in order to support oversight of the United States Olympic Committee, each national governing body, and each paralympic sports organization with regard to safeguarding amateur athletes against abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse in sports.

(b) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a nonprofit nongovernmental entity shall submit an application to the Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Attorney General may require, including information that demonstrates that the entity has—

- (1) nationally recognized expertise in preventing and investigating emotional, physical, and sexual abuse in the athletic programs of the United States Olympic Committee, each national governing body, and each paralympic sports organization; and
- (2) the capacity to oversee regular and random audits to ensure that the policies and procedures used by the United States Olympic Committee, each national governing body, and each paralympic sports organization to prevent and identify the abuse of an amateur athlete are followed correctly.

(c) USE OF GRANT AMOUNT.—An entity that receives a grant under this section may use such funds—

- (1) to develop and test new training materials for emotional, physical, and sexual abuse

prevention and identification education in youth athletic programs;

(2) for staff salaries, travel expenses, equipment, printing, and other reasonable expenses necessary to develop, maintain, and disseminate to the United States Olympic Committee, each national governing body, each paralympic sports organization, and other amateur sports organizations information about safeguarding amateur athletes against abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse in sports; and

(3) to oversee the administration of the procedures described in subsection (b)(2).

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$2,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2018 through 2022.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDS.—Funds appropriated under this section shall remain available until expended.

(Added Pub. L. 115–141, div. S, title III, §302(a), Mar. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 1127.)

SUBCHAPTER III<sup>1</sup>—UNITED STATES  
CENTER FOR SAFE SPORT

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–126, title II, §202(a), Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 320, added subchapter heading.

§ 220541. Designation of United States Center for Safe Sport

(a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Center for Safe Sport shall—

(1) serve as the independent national safe sport organization and be recognized worldwide as the independent national safe sport organization for the United States;

(2) exercise jurisdiction over the corporation, each national governing body, and each paralympic sports organization with regard to safeguarding amateur athletes against abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, in sports;

(3) maintain an office for education and outreach that shall develop training, oversight practices, policies, and procedures to prevent the abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, of amateur athletes participating in amateur athletic activities through national governing bodies and paralympic sports organizations;

(4) maintain an office for response and resolution that shall establish mechanisms that allow for the reporting, investigation, and resolution, pursuant to subsection (c), of alleged sexual abuse in violation of the Center’s policies and procedures; and

(5) ensure that the mechanisms under paragraph (4) provide fair notice and an opportunity to be heard and protect the privacy and safety of complainants.

(b) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—The policies and procedures developed under subsection (a)(3) shall apply as though they were incorporated in and made a part of section 220524 of this title.

<sup>1</sup> Another subchapter III is set out below.

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(c) BINDING ARBITRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center may, in its discretion, utilize a neutral arbitration body and develop policies and procedures to resolve allegations of sexual abuse within its jurisdiction to determine the opportunity of any amateur athlete, coach, trainer, manager, administrator, or official, who is the subject of such an allegation, to participate in amateur athletic competition.

(2) PRESERVATION OF RIGHTS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as altering, superseding, or otherwise affecting the right of an individual within the Center's jurisdiction to pursue civil remedies through the courts for personal injuries arising from abuse in violation of the Center's policies and procedures, nor shall the Center condition the participation of any such individual in a proceeding described in paragraph (1) upon an agreement not to pursue such civil remedies.

(d) LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an applicable entity shall not be liable for damages in any civil action for defamation, libel, slander, or damage to reputation arising out of any action or communication, if the action arises from the execution of the responsibilities or functions described in this section, section 220542, or section 220543.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply in any action in which an applicable entity acted with actual malice, or provided information or took action not pursuant to this section, section 220542, or section 220543.

(3) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE ENTITY.—In this subsection, the term “applicable entity” means—

- (A) the Center;
- (B) a national governing body;
- (C) a paralympic sports organization;
- (D) an amateur sports organization or other person sanctioned by a national governing body under section 220525;
- (E) an amateur sports organization reporting under section 220530;
- (F) any officer, employee, agent, or member of an entity described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E); and
- (G) any individual participating in a proceeding pursuant to this section.

(Added Pub. L. 115-126, title II, §202(a), Feb. 14, 2018, 132 Stat. 320.)

§ 220542. Additional duties.<sup>1</sup>

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall—

(1) develop training, oversight practices, policies, and procedures for implementation by a national governing body or paralympic sports organization to prevent the abuse, including emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, of any amateur athlete; and

(2) include in the policies and procedures developed under section 220541(a)(3)—

- (A) a requirement that all adult members of a national governing body, a paralympic sports organization, or a facility under the

jurisdiction of a national governing body or paralympic sports organization, and all adults authorized by such members to interact with an amateur athlete, report immediately any allegation of child abuse of an amateur athlete who is a minor to—

(i) the Center, whenever such members or adults learn of facts leading them to suspect reasonably that an amateur athlete who is a minor has suffered an incident of child abuse; and

(ii) law enforcement consistent with section 226 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (34 U.S.C. 20341);

(B) a mechanism, approved by a trained expert on child abuse, that allows a complainant to report easily an incident of child abuse to the Center, a national governing body, law enforcement authorities, or other appropriate authorities;

(C) reasonable procedures to limit one-on-one interactions between an amateur athlete who is a minor and an adult (who is not the minor's legal guardian) at a facility under the jurisdiction of a national governing body or paralympic sports organization without being in an observable and interruptible distance from another adult, except under emergency circumstances;

(D) procedures to prohibit retaliation, by any national governing body or paralympic sports organization, against any individual who makes a report under subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B);

(E) oversight procedures, including regular and random audits conducted by subject matter experts unaffiliated with, and independent of, a national governing body or a paralympic sports organization of each national governing body and paralympic sports organization to ensure that policies and procedures developed under that section are followed correctly and that consistent training is offered and given to all adult members who are in regular contact with amateur athletes who are minors, and subject to parental consent, to members who are minors, regarding prevention of child abuse; and

(F) a mechanism by which a national governing body or paralympic sports organization can—

(i) share confidentially a report of suspected child abuse of an amateur athlete who is a minor by a member of a national governing body or paralympic sports organization, or an adult authorized by a national governing body, paralympic sports organization, or an amateur sports organization to interact with an amateur athlete who is a minor, with the Center, which in turn, may share with relevant national governing bodies, paralympic sports organizations, and other entities; and

(ii) withhold providing to an adult who is the subject of an allegation of child abuse authority to interact with an amateur athlete who is a minor until the resolution of such allegation.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the ability of

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The period probably should not appear.