

1 **ENROLLED**

2 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

3 FOR

4 **H. B. 2548**

5 (By Delegates Ferro, Stowers, Pethtel, Swartzmiller, Storch,  
6 Marcum, Boggs, Ferns, Poling, D., Diserio, and Phillips, L.)

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

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10 AN ACT to amend and reenact §61-2-15a of the Code of West Virginia,  
11 1931, as amended, relating to increasing the criminal  
12 penalties for assaults and batteries against athletic  
13 officials.

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

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

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

18 **§61-2-15a. Assault, battery on athletic officials; penalties.**

19 (a) If any person commits an assault as defined in subsection  
20 (b), section nine of this article, to the person of an athletic  
21 official during the time the official is acting as an athletic  
22 official, the offender is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon  
23 conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than \$500, or confined  
24 in jail not more than six months, or both fined and confined.

25 (b) If any person commits a battery, as defined in subsection  
26 (c), section nine of this article, against an athletic official

1 during the time the official is acting as an athletic official, the  
2 offender is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof,  
3 shall be fined not more than \$1,000, or confined in jail not more  
4 than twelve months, or both fined and confined.

5 (c) For the purpose of this section, "athletic official" means  
6 a person at a sports event who enforces the rules of that event,  
7 such as an umpire or referee, or a person who supervises the  
8 participants, such as a coach.