
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 708 (Valencia) - California Youth Football Act: safety equipment

Version: March 27, 2025

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 13, 2026

Policy Vote: HEALTH 9 - 0, JUD. 12 - 0

Mandate: No

Consultant: Agnes Lee

Bill Summary: AB 708 would require a youth tackle football league, youth sports organization that conducts a tackle football program, or coach of a youth sports organization to allow youth tackle football participants to use safety equipment, as specified.

******* ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE *******

**The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 13, 2026**

Fiscal Impact: Unknown, potential workload costs to the courts related to plaintiffs seeking remedies under the bill (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund). While the courts are not funded on a workload basis, an increase in workload could result in delayed court services and would put pressure on the General Fund to increase the amount appropriated for trial court operations.

Author Amendments: Add legislative intent language and provide that a warranty or safety certification of a football helmet put into play on or after January 1, 2027, with a soft-shell add-on cannot be voided because of the use of the soft-shell add-on unless specified conditions are met.

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