

## NY to require benching students with concussions

## September 30 2011

(AP) -- Starting next year, a new law in New York says student athletes suspected of suffering concussions should be immediately removed from games.

The legislation recently was signed by Gov. Andrew Cuomo (KWOH'-moh). It directs state health and education officials to draft regulations for schools on <u>mild traumatic brain</u> injuries. The regulations would go into effect in July.

The law requires immediate benching of any student who has or may have suffered a <u>concussion</u> in a school-related activity, including sports and gym classes.

Students can play again only after they are symptom-free for 24 hours and cleared by a doctor.

Concussions are usually temporary, but can cause headaches and problems with concentration, memory, judgment, balance and coordination.

Sponsors say athletes need to be protected from further injury and possible long-term effects.

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