

New Jersey Catholic Conference

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William F. Bolan, Jr., J.D.
Executive Director

January 19, 2006

*To: Jim
Please read*

TO: Vicars General / Chancellors
Diocesan Attorneys
Council of Catholic School Superintendents
Diocesan Youth Directors
Government Program Coordinators
Selected Members of the Advisory Committee for Nonpublic Schools

FROM: George V. Corwell, Ed.D.
Associate Director for Education

RE: **P.L. 2005, c.306**

The above-captioned legislation was signed by Acting Governor Codey on January 11, 2006. The legislation requires that any child who wears corrective eyeglasses while participating in racquetball, squash, tennis, women's lacrosse, basketball, women's field hockey, badminton, paddleball, soccer, volleyball, baseball, or softball, sponsored by a school, community, or government agency must wear protective eyewear that meets the frame standards of the American Society for Testing of Materials and lens standards of the American National Standards Institute.

The legislation authorizes the New Jersey Council on Physical Fitness and Sports to provide grants to assist low-income families for purchasing the protective eyewear while defining "low-income" family as a family which qualifies for low-income housing under the standards promulgated by the Council on Affordable Housing pursuant to the "Fair Housing Act."

The legislation also states that no school, community or government agency engaged in organizing, teaching, refereeing, or coaching a sports activity described in the bill shall be liable in a civil action for failure to administer and enforce the provisions of this Act. The bill will take effect six months after the date of enactment (July 11, 2006).

You may access the legislation on the website for the New Jersey Legislature using the link for bills enacted during the 2004-2005 session. The original bill number was *A-2091* (Barnes and Diegnan).

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to call me. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

GVC:sc

cc: Diocesan Network Directors