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State of Minnesota  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3496

03/23/2016 Authored by Clark, Kahn, Schultz and Smith  
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections Policy

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to health; requiring the posting of signs at fields and playgrounds  
1.3 containing crumb rubber; establishing a moratorium on construction of fields and  
1.4 playgrounds using crumb rubber; requiring a report; proposing coding for new  
1.5 law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 448.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. **[448.57] SIGNS REQUIRED AT CERTAIN ATHLETIC FIELDS AND**  
1.8 **PLAYGROUNDS.**

1.9 The owner or operator of an athletic field or playground containing crumb rubber  
1.10 that is located on land leased or owned by a municipality shall post a sign in a conspicuous  
1.11 location that is visible to individuals who use the facilities that states:

1.12 "The Minnesota Department of Health encourages all those using athletic fields and  
1.13 playgrounds containing crumb rubber to observe the following recommendations:

- 1.14 1. Wash hands and exposed body parts aggressively after playing on the field.
- 1.15 2. Turn clothes inside out as soon as possible after using the field to avoid tracking  
1.16 dust and infill to other locations.
- 1.17 3. Keep beverages closed and in bags or coolers when not drinking to minimize  
1.18 contamination from field dust and fibers.
- 1.19 4. Be aware of signs of heat-related illness and dehydration. Fields can get  
1.20 excessively hot on warm, sunny days. Take all necessary precautions."

1.21 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

1.22 Sec. 2. **[448.58] ATHLETIC FIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS; MORATORIUM;**  
1.23 **DEFINITIONS.**

2.1 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) The definitions in this subdivision apply to this  
 2.2 section and section 448.57.

2.3 (b) "Crumb rubber" means rubber processed from a waste tire into granules or larger  
 2.4 pieces that are loosely combined to form a nonuniform surface.

2.5 (c) "Municipality" has the meaning given in section 471.345.

2.6 (d) "Waste tire" has the meaning given in section 115A.90.

2.7 Subd. 2. **Moratorium.** (a) No municipality may construct an athletic field or  
 2.8 playground containing crumb rubber until July 1, 2019.

2.9 (b) No athletic field or playground containing crumb rubber may be constructed on  
 2.10 land leased or owned by a municipality until July 1, 2019.

2.11 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.12 Sec. 3. **REPORT ON HEALTH EFFECTS OF ATHLETIC FIELDS AND**  
 2.13 **PLAYGROUNDS CONSTRUCTED OF CRUMB RUBBER.**

2.14 (a) The Department of Health shall, by January 1, 2019, submit a report to the chairs  
 2.15 and ranking minority members of the senate and house of representatives committees with  
 2.16 primary jurisdiction over health and environmental policy containing a summary and  
 2.17 evaluation of recent studies examining the effects on the environment and human health of  
 2.18 athletic fields and playgrounds containing crumb rubber, including a study currently being  
 2.19 conducted by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment under  
 2.20 contract to the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery. Issues that  
 2.21 must be addressed in the study include, but are not limited to:

2.22 (1) identifying chemicals released from crumb rubber from athletic fields and  
 2.23 playgrounds of various ages and under different weather conditions;

2.24 (2) evaluating exposures to chemicals released from crumb rubber that may occur  
 2.25 through inhalation, ingestion, and contact with skin; and

2.26 (3) assessing what, if any, potential health risks are associated with use of athletic  
 2.27 fields and playgrounds constructed of crumb rubber.

2.28 (b) For the purposes of this section, "crumb rubber" means rubber processed from a  
 2.29 waste tire into granules or larger pieces that are loosely combined to form a nonuniform  
 2.30 surface.

2.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.