

## **Legislative Alerts from Washington DC**

On the national scene there are currently multiple pieces of federal legislation that the NATA is looking to get support from our members. The following is information on the bills, how to find the information for your federal legislators (an NATA site), and sample letters for both the Senate and House for each bill. Please review these bills, and if you agree with the language, please take the time to write a letter to your federal legislator.

### **Bills/Resolutions**

#### **H.Res. 112 / S. Res. 83: Secondary School Student Athletes' Bill of Rights**

The Secondary School Student Athletes' Bill of Rights establishes 10 best practices for making secondary school athletics safer.

Introduced Feb. 13, 2015 in the House by Rep. Ryan Costello , R-PA and Rep. David Scott, D-GA

Introduced Feb. 23, 2015 in the Senate by Sen. Robert Menendez, D-NJ, and Sen. Susan Collins, R-ME

#### **Facts**

[H.Res 112 \(pdf\)](#)

[S.Res 83 \(pdf\)](#)

#### **H. R. 829 / S. 436: SAFE PLAY (Supporting Athletes, Families and Educators to Protect the Lives of Athletic Youth) Act**

The SAFE PLAY Act recommends a multidisciplinary approach to research and federal support to ensure student athletes' safety in schools. This legislation specifically helps school districts develop and

implement concussion safety and management teams and plans and encourages increased surveillance efforts for life-threatening cardiac conditions in children.

Introduced Feb. 13, 2015 in the House by Rep. Ryan Costello , R-PA and Rep. David Scott, D-GA

Introduced Feb. 10, 2015 in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Robert Menendez, D-NJ, and in the House by Rep. Lois Capps, CA-24, and Rep. Bill Pascrell, NJ-09

#### Facts

[H.Res 829 \(pdf\)](#)

[S.Res 436 \(pdf\)](#)

### **H. R. 921: Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act**

H.R. 921 clarifies medical liability rules for athletic trainers and medical professionals to ensure they are properly covered by their malpractice insurance while traveling with athletic teams in another state

Introduced Feb. 12, 2015 in the House by Rep. Brett Guthrie, R-KY, and Rep. Cedric Richmond, D-LA

Introduced Feb. 10, 2015 in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Robert Menendez, D-NJ, and in the House by Rep. Lois Capps, CA-24, and Rep. Bill Pascrell, NJ-09

#### Facts

[H.Res 921 \(pdf\)](#)

### **NATA Legislative Alert Center**

Contact your State and Federal Legislators

<http://capwiz.com/nata/home/>

---

**Sample Letters**

The Honorable (full name)  
\_\_(Rm.#)\_\_(name of)House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

I am writing in support of the Secondary Student Athletes' Bill of Rights (H. Res 112) that was introduced in the House by Rep. Ryan Costello (R-PA) and Rep. David Scott (D-GA) in February. This Bill of Rights will set a positive tone for expectations that the House of Representatives has for our secondary school student athletes.

As an Athletic Trainer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I have a vested interest in our physically active youth. Many athletic trainers in the Commonwealth work in secondary school settings and are providing proper safety measures, timely medical assessments and monitoring environmental conditions to ensure the health and well-being of our student athletes.

Please support the Secondary Student Athletes' Bill of Rights. Student athlete safety is a prime concern for me and H. Res 112 will provide the knowledge that student athlete safety is a prime concern for our federal government as well.

Thank you for your time,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Contact Info)

The Honorable (full name)  
\_\_(Rm.#)\_\_(name of)Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

I am writing in support of the Secondary Student Athletes' Bill of Rights (S. Res 83) that was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME) in February. This Bill of Rights will set a positive tone for expectations that the Senate has for our secondary school student athletes.

As an Athletic Trainer in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I have a vested interest in our physically active youth. Many athletic trainers in the Commonwealth work in secondary school settings and are providing proper safety measures, timely medical assessments and monitoring environmental conditions to ensure the health and well-being of our student athletes.

Please support the Secondary Student Athletes' Bill of Rights. Student athlete safety is a prime concern for me and S. Res 83 will provide the knowledge that student athlete safety is a prime concern for our federal government as well.

Thank you for your time,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Contact Info)

The Honorable (full name)  
\_\_(Rm.#)\_\_(name of)House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

I am writing to express my support of the SAFE PLAY Act (H. Res 829) that was introduced in the House by Rep. Louis Capps (CA-24) and Rep. Bill Pascrell (NJ-09) in February. This Act has been written to promote youth athletic safety by requiring the Commonwealth to provide educational materials and mandates for specific health related issues that may occur in youth athletics.

Athletic Trainers promote the health and welfare of our clients in the Commonwealth through the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations, and disabilities. Athletic Trainers work in many settings and 87% of our PIAA-member secondary schools have access to an Athletic Trainer for athletic medical care. As an Athletic Trainer, a licensed healthcare professional, in the Commonwealth I support advancements to youth athletic safety.

Athletic safety is a prime concern for me and I would like for you to support the SAFE PLAY Act (H. Res 829) to promote the health and safety of our youth athletes.

Thank you for your time,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Contact Info)

The Honorable (full name)  
\_\_(Rm.#)\_\_(name of)Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

I am writing to express my support of the SAFE PLAY Act (S. Res 436) that was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ) in February. This Act has been written to promote youth athletic safety by requiring the Commonwealth to provide educational materials and mandates for specific health related issues that may occur in youth athletics.

Athletic Trainers promote the health and welfare of our clients in the Commonwealth through the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations, and disabilities. Athletic Trainers work in many settings and 87% of our PIAA-member secondary schools have access to an Athletic Trainer for athletic medical care. As an Athletic Trainer, a licensed healthcare professional, in the Commonwealth I support advancements for youth athletic safety.

Athletic safety is a prime concern for me and I would like for you to support the SAFE PLAY Act (H. Res 829) to promote the health and safety of our youth athletes.

Thank you for your time,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Contact Info)

The Honorable (full name)  
\_\_(Rm.#)\_\_(name of)House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

I am writing in support of the Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act (H. Res 921) that was introduced in the House by Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY), Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA), and Rep. Steve Womack (R-AR) in February. This bill would provide for sports medicine professionals the ability to have the same medical professional liability insurance and civil and criminal liability coverage while providing medical services in a secondary State that they would in their primary State.

This bill provides a definition of covered sports medicine professionals as a physician or Athletic Trainer. As an Athletic Trainer in the Commonwealth, and a licensed healthcare professional, I fully encourage your support of this bill.

There are many instances in secondary, collegiate and professional athletic settings where sports medicine professionals travel with their teams. This bill would allow for their primary liability coverage from Pennsylvania to cover them as they travel.

Please support the Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act (H. Res 921) to support the sport medicine professionals in the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your time,

(Signature)

(Printed Name)

(Contact Info)