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Honorable Michael N. Corr
153A East Wing
PO Box 202150
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2150

Dear Representative Corr:

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) is writing to offer our support and our assistance with your resolution to create a Select Committee to Investigate School Violence. PATS is a volunteer organization representing over 3,000 athletic trainers in the Commonwealth. Licensed Athletic Trainers are highly qualified, multi-skilled health care professionals that work under the direction of a physician. The National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) states, "The profession of athletic training encompasses the prevention, examination, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of emergent, acute or chronic injuries and medical conditions."

Athletic trainers work in over 85% of Pennsylvania high schools providing services during regular classes and for after school activities. PATS has been working with the "Stop the Bleed Campaign" to have athletic trainers participate in "Train the Trainer" classes to teach lifesaving skills to members of the communities that we serve. In 2015, then President of the NATA, Jim Thornton (Clarion University) was invited to participate in a White House Roundtable that looked to create initiatives to prepare the general public to save lives during catastrophic tragedies. He was able to provide "critical insights to help save lives and reduce the onset of acute, chronic or fatal outcomes."

PATS would like to offer our assistance with the Select Committee and be a part of investigating and recommending ways to mitigate potential risks during after school activities. In Pennsylvania this past fall, multiple school events were postponed or cancelled due to threats of violence. Athletic trainers are often the only medical professionals available during these events.

It would be my pleasure to set up a meeting to provide more information on PATS or Licensed Athletic Trainers. Please feel free to contact me at president@gopats.org.

Sincerely,

George M. Roberts, MEd, LAT, ATC
PATS President