



Gaetano Sanchioli, MS, LAT, ATC, PES
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc.
President

610-496-4192
president@gopats.org

March 17, 2017

Senator Stewart Greenleaf
Senate Box 203012
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3012
Room: 19 East Wing

Dear Senator Greenleaf:

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) is writing this letter in support of the intended resolution by you and Sen. Dinniman to designate March 2017 as "Brain Injury Awareness Month" in the Commonwealth.

Athletic Trainers are licensed healthcare professionals in the Commonwealth and our goal is to enhance the health and welfare of our patients by providing prevention, diagnosis and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions. In the course of our practice traumatic brain injuries occur. Although the majority of the TBI that are seen are considered mild traumatic brain injuries (mTBI), otherwise known as concussions, we are knowledgeable in responding, diagnosing and referring all TBI. It is devastating when a patient is unable to recover, or the progress is delayed, from a TBI. During this time, Athletic Trainers are able to provide the patient and their families support and resources.

Our Society has been working closely with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board since 2011. Currently, a past-president of our Society is an active member of the board. As a society, we appreciate your efforts in recognizing TBI and the efforts to help those affected.

PATS is willing to be of any assistance that you would need. More information on PATS or Licensed Athletic Trainers can be found at www.gopats.org. Please contact me at president@gopats.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Gaetano Sanchioli, MS, LAT, ATC, PES
PATS President

The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life

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