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President

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January 11, 2017

Senator Donald C. White
Senate Box 203041
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3041

Dear Senator White:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATs), representing the 3,000 Licensed Athletic Trainers in the Commonwealth, we want to express our support of the re-introduction of SB 1355 that will increase the penalty for an assault on a health care practitioner within the Commonwealth.

In any medical profession, there unfortunately is a potential for violence. PATs highly supports your addition of "health care practitioners" as a protected class to the PA Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses). Athletic Trainers are employed in many varied settings that include both traditional and non-traditional health care facilities. These non-traditional settings will be recognized as health care facilities by the included definitions you have proposed in the previous legislation, which will also support many other professions. PATs would like to extend our appreciation for your willingness to re-propose your legislation.

PATs strongly supports your efforts that could potentially provide a deterrent to assaults against health care workers in all employment settings in the Commonwealth.

Information on PATs or Athletic Trainers can be found at www.gopats.org. PATs is available as a resource for you. If you have any questions about our profession please contact me at president@gopats.org.

Sincerely,

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

The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life

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