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President

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2 January, 2017

Honorable Scott Conklin
314 Irvis Office Building
PO Box 202077
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2077

Dear Representative Conklin:

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) is writing this letter in support your intended legislation to amend the Public School Code of 1949 to require schools to provide employees, volunteers and students instruction in CPR, First Aid, and AED.

Athletic Trainers are health professionals and work in multiple employment settings to provide quality health care. A primary professional setting of Athletic Trainers in PA is the secondary school. Our goal is to enhance student-athlete health and welfare by providing prevention, diagnosis and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions. Athletic trainers are required to maintain current CPR and AED certification in order to maintain our National Certification and State License in Athletic Training. Athletic Trainers are often the only employee certified in CPR and AED during after school activities.

The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation reports that victims of sudden cardiac arrest can survive with the use of immediate CPR and early defibrillation, ideally within three to five minutes after collapse. Your legislation would help to ensure that more individuals are prepared in a time of need throughout the Commonwealth and more specifically, in our secondary schools.

PATS strongly supports your intended legislation.

PATS is willing to be of any assistance that you would need. If you would like more information on PATS or Licensed Athletic Trainers, it 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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