



CONNECTICUT SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOC. INC.

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Mr. Gaffey, Mr. Fleischmann and members of the Education Committee. My name is Mallory Buckingham and I am the VP for Governmental Affairs with the CT Speech Language and Hearing Association (CSHA). I am writing regarding raised bill number 456, An Act Concerning Student Athletes and Concussions.

Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologist are important treatment team members involved in the rehabilitation of children and adults with brain injuries. Longitudinal studies are beginning to reveal the long-term consequences of repeated, mild concussions in professional and student athletes alike.

We are happy to write in support of the legislation proposed which requires student athletes to obtain written medical clearance from a medical professional before being allowed to return to vigorous practice or play. We are happy to support you in your efforts at prevention of head injuries in our student athletes.

Sincerely,

Mallory Buckingham, MS, CCC/SLP