



University of Connecticut
Neag School of Education

March 2, 2011

Department of Kinesiology

Dear Public Health Committee,

It is with pleasure that I send this letter to the Public Health Committee. I am writing in regards to the meeting your committee has planned for today regarding the "S.B. No.1051 (Raised) An Act Concerning the Practice of Athletic Training". I am the Director of Athletic Training Education at the University of Connecticut. I am quite familiar with the educational requirements of the accreditation agencies regarding the practice of athletic training and the qualifications of athletic trainers.

The Athletic Training Educational Competencies (which I am attaching with this document) clearly show that the profession specifically educates athletic training students in a wide breadth of general medical conditions so that graduates are fully competent to understand the etiology, relevance, and impact that co-morbidities could have on existing medical conditions. Additionally, athletic trainers work under the direction of a physician and are prepared to engage in a dialogue and referral with a supervising physician when the situation warrants further attention.

A great deal of the athletic training students who we graduate must consider leaving our state if they wish to practice athletic training outside of "traditional" work venues (college, high school, professional sports) since the Connecticut practice act is currently limiting with regards to scope. Many of our graduates wish to work in industrial, military, hospital, clinic, etc. settings and are able to do so to the full extent of their training and licensure in other states. We are hopeful that an update of the state practice act can assist us in keeping many of phenomenal medical talent in the Nutmeg State. I am all for sharing, but am a bit selfish in believing that we should keep our best talent within our own state borders.

Please contact me if additional questions arise or if I can be of assistance in any way. I apologize for not being able to be present to deliver this testimony, but a previous commitment keeps me from being at the Capitol for today's hearings.

With Warmest Regards,

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