

Testimony for HB 5113

My name is Jason Kasprzyk, and although I have only been a certified official for one season, I can very much see how this legislation would impact intramural sports altogether.

There has to be some form of control over the safety of our children, but that should fall upon the individual schools to acquire and maintain training staff to handle injuries, both minor and severe. It should not fall upon officials to determine the severity of an injury, nor to determine if a player is fit to play. Our main concern should be the conducting of the sport, and while player safety is still one of our top priorities, we should not be responsible for the hundreds of children we referee in a season.

As students, they should understand the risks of contact sports...and their parents should also be educated in the risks of concussive injuries. It is, however, unrealistic to ask that every student and parent, for EVERY SPORT be required to take time out of their schedules to do so. It will, at the very least, make entering into a sport more difficult...and in doing so, we stand to lose plenty of talent in our younger generations from being fostered and developed.

I must protest to the passing of HB 5113, and I must insist upon its revision to a better, more intensely focused bill...one that operates as intended, and doesn't place forced impositions upon an already dwindling roster of officials.

Respectfully,
Jason Kasprzyk
Bridgeport, CT