

Testimony for HB 5113

Dear Legislator,

My name is Robert Speziale and I am a sports official in basketball, football and lacrosse. I live in the town of Madison.

I am writing to express my concern for HB 5113- AN ACT CONCERNING YOUTH ATHLETICS AND CONCUSSION. No amount of legislation will change what needs to be a rule that the Education Commission of the State of Connecticut can provide to empower local school districts to act.

We as officials are responsible for enforcing the rules of the game to preserve fair competition and safety. It is unreasonable to expect us as officials to take on the responsibility of an assessment that is in the realm of medical professionals. We have not more capability of assessing a concussed athlete than one with a sprain vs a broken bone. You cannot legislate core competence. This legislation is flawed in that it directly contravenes the code of conduct and ethical standards that sports officials guiding body, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NHFS) has set forth.

Kind regards,

Robert Speziale  
48 Stonewall Ln.  
Madison, CT 06443  
Phone: 203.675.4502  
Email: [bspeziale@comcast.net](mailto:bspeziale@comcast.net)