



Testimony before Education Committee – March 6, 2016

Dear Senator Slossberg, Representative Fleischmann and Education Committee members,

I provide this testimony in support of raised House Bill No. 5467, An Act Establishing a Red Ribbon PASS Program.

The Physically Active School Systems (PASS) initiative is a comprehensive, system-wide initiative through which school districts in the state of Connecticut utilize opportunities for school-based physical activity that is embedded throughout the school day. Participation in PASS has direct, evidence-based benefits to students' physical health, as well as related benefits to student social and emotional health and overall cognition.

Central Connecticut State University's Department of Physical Education and Human Performance has been at the forefront of the implementation of PASS in Connecticut's k-12 schools since its inception. The establishment of a Red Ribbon PASS Program will help to solidify the importance of physical activity to community health in Connecticut by formalizing and elevating the visibility of those Connecticut public schools districts that choose to make demonstrated, sustained efforts to raising the physical health of their communities. I urge the Education Committee to support this piece of legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Alfano".

Michael P. Alfano, Ph.D.  
Dean