



## GLASTONBURY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.

*AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS FOR  
INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC EVENTS.*

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF RHB-6534**

TO: COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
FROM: GLASTONBURY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC. (GYFA)  
DATE: March 1, 2021

I am William Marohn and I am the Immediate Past Safety Director of the Glastonbury Youth Football Association (GYFA). We wish to thank the members of this Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony in **Support of R.H.B. No. 6534**.

It is our belief that passage of the bill will help to create standardized guidelines for interscholastic and intramural athletic event Emergency Action Plans (EAP). This will help to ensure that whether a team is competing at a home or away event participants, coaches, administrators, spectators, officials, and the families of athletes will know that proper measures have been put in place should an emergency occur.

Additionally the **dissemination of publicly published materials and templates** will help to provide youth sport organizations access to the best practices and guidelines for emergency action plans. We believe this is crucial to ensure that **ALL** organizations, **no matter their financial wherewithal**, have access to these best practices. There should be no socio-economic barriers to ensuring the safety of participants and spectators at sporting events.

For these reasons and more GYFA strongly **Supports R.H.B. No. 6534**.



## **GLASTONBURY YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**ABOUT GYFA:** Since 1991, the Glastonbury Youth Football Association has been a volunteer run, 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, that has served thousands upon thousands of youth participants in the Town of Glastonbury, Connecticut by offering competitive youth football and cheer to the children of its town.

Our mission seeks to foster and encourage youth competitive football and cheerleading in an attempt to achieve our goals as outlined below.

- **Developing good citizenship, honesty, emotional control, dependability, and respect for rules, property and authority.**
- **Providing an opportunity to exemplify and observe good sportsmanship.**
- **Maintaining a high standard of credible and positive performance and conduct on and off the field.**
- **Teaching and emphasizing the fundamental skills of football and cheer as a necessary ingredient in achieving individual and team success.**
- **Stressing the importance of physical fitness, conditioning, health habits, and safety in athletics.**
- **Providing opportunities to develop lasting friendships with teammates and opponents.**
- **Teaching our youth athletes to work together as a cohesive unit in order to achieve a common goal.**
- **Providing a well-planned and well-balanced program of athletics for as many youth participants as possible.**
- **Providing high quality leadership for its programs so as to exemplify to youth participant's a desired behavior to be developed from each program.**
- **Providing opportunities for the development of a feeling of unity and belonging, team pride, teamwork and commitment.**

As a volunteer run organization those involved with the Glastonbury Youth Football Association are deeply committed to our mission and continually donate time, skill, money, experience, and expertise in helping to teach the youth of our community the powerful lessons that can be learned through structured team sports.