

Education Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6534

AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY ACTION PLANS FOR

Title: INTERSCHOLASTIC AND INTRAMURAL ATHLETIC EVENTS.

Vote Date: 3/15/2021

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2021

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Education Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will require schools to develop an Emergency Action Plan to respond to serious sports related injuries during athletic events. This plan must be developed in consultation with emergency service providers and allied health professionals, must address roles of staff and procedures for specific traumatic injuries, and must be reviewed and rehearsed every year. The bill requires employees identified in the plan to be certified in CPR and first aid and requires the plan to be properly distributed and posted.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Charlene Russell-Tucker, Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Education:

The Department is in full support of this concept. Safety of students is a priority and having a plan in place will ensure the coordination of urgent care. They would like to note that the lack of provision of additional resources may result in capacity issues for some districts.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Fred Balsamo, Executive Director, Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors

Joe Canzanella, Executive Director, Connecticut High School Coaches Association

Eleni Diakoqgeorgiou, Co-Chair, Connecticut Athletic Trainers' Association

Governmental Affairs Committee

Christianne Eason, Vice President of Sport Safety, Korey Stringer Institute

Glen Lungarini, Executive Director, CT Association of Schools/CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference

William Marohn, Immediate Past Safety Director, Glastonbury Youth Football Association

A well-developed action plan will delineate protocols and lead to a more effective and efficient response that ultimately may save lives. While some schools already have these plans in place, others will benefit from the focus that this requirement puts on EAPs.

Rep. Nicole Klarides-Ditria, 105th Dist.

EAPs are crucial and necessary as a first line of defense against catastrophic injury. Seconds count when it comes to these injuries, and not only do EAPs help protect students, they help the school to not risk being found negligent.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

There are no sources of opposition for this bill.

Reported by: Dallas Emerle

Date: 3/16/2021