

Madam Chair Pena- Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and esteemed members of HGO,

My name is Jane McClean, and I am the Government Affairs Committee Chair of the Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association. I am writing today with the position of Favorable with Amendments of HB 686: Youth Sports Programs- Venue-Specific Emergency Action Plans – Requirements.

We want to thank Delegate Simmons and his staff for meeting with us multiple times since first introduction of this bill last session. The Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association believes this bill has great intentions, but we have four main concerns.

Concerns:

- 1) The youth sports program (YSP) should not be expected to develop and maintain an EAP though they should operate under one.
 - a. YSPs often participate at multiple facilities. This includes various "home" sites, away sites, last minute sites due to weather, etc.
 - b. Can't account for all changes at a venue every time, which could change between visits.
 - c. Can't provide the necessary equipment for the venue each time they participate.
- 2) It is our opinion that a facility or venue that desires to host athletic events should have the responsibility to present a safe playing environment. EAPs should be developed by the host venue/facility and provided to all users prior to each season and by posting at the venue.
 - a. The EAP is venue and event specific, (game, practice, tournament, etc)
 - b. The Facility/Venue should have a designated EAP Coordinator, who maintains the EAP and associated equipment.
 - c. The EAP would best be adjusted by the venue in advance for a wide variety of situations from construction, local changes (Traffic patterns, gate access, etc),
 - d. The Venue should provide emergency equipment for their facility.
- 3) The YSP should establish a policy and procedure manual which will include
 - a. Training guidelines for coaches:
 - i. Documenting the completion of Concussion, Emergency Care, CPR and AED training.
 - ii. Rehearsals for common emergency care coaches may face.
 - b. Emergency Care equipment that coaches will provide or confirm are available at all venues.
- 4) The Document should define sporting activities
 - a. Practice, Game, conditioning, Team Dinner, Social activities, etc..

Please consider these concerns when discussing HB 686.

Sincerely,

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