

**SB638/HB836 - SUPPORT**

**WRITTEN STATEMENT**

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(Father of Elijah Gorham)**

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**Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
March 8, 2022**

**Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Members of the Education, Health and Environmental  
Affairs Committee**

Dear Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee:

On behalf of my son, Elijah Gorham, I am pleased to join the co-sponsors Delegate Brooke Lierman and Senator Shelly Hettleman by providing this statement in support of **Senate Bill 638 - Elijah Gorham Act**.

Senate Bill 638 is about saving the lives of student athletes at the middle and high school level. No child should lose their life due to lack of certified training, emergency action plans and devices needed in case of an emergency incident.

It will be a great accomplishment for athletes in the State of Maryland to have this bill signed urgently. It will help save the lives of current and future student athletes. I would be so proud to see it pass with my son's name attached to it so that his legacy will continue to live in all of us - 7 Strong.

On behalf of student athletes across the State of Maryland, I urge a favorable report on SB 638 in order to improve player safety and help save the lives of current and future student athletes no matter what sport they choose to play.

Thank you.