

## House Ways & Means Committee House Bill 1235: Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

March 8th, 2022

Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair House Ways & Means Committee Room 131 House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Sport Turf Manager Association (MASTMA) and its 700 members, we submit this letter in support w/ amendment for *House Bill House Bill 1235: Youth Sports Safety Advisory Commission*.

The Mid-Atlantic Sports Turf Managers Association (MASTMA) is an organization that is composed of sports turf field managers and workers from Maryland, Delaware, Washington D.C., Northern Virginia. As MASTMA members, we partner together to promote education, teamwork, networking, and best practices among our peers and within the Sports Turf Management Industry. Over the last couple of years, MASTMA has created and distributed a Best Management Practices (BMP) manual.

One of the focuses of the BMP manual is to highlight industry specific practices that ensure the safety of the community, and that environment remains the top priority in our line of work. It covers topics to help both managers and workers keep fields safe and playable for athletes of all ages, from children to professionals.

MASTMA proposes to amend the bill in order for a MASTMA member to be included on this important legislative enacted commission. We believe player safety is of the utmost importance; educating players, parents, and spectators of all aspects of safety on the fields is vital to prolonged playability on sports fields. Having a member of MASTMA on the committee will help to ensure that all aspects of player safety are taken into consideration.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your support for House Bill 1235 and urge a *favorable* report from this committee.

Thank you,

MASTMA BMP Outreach Committee