



*Gina Palermo, President
Jean Perez, Vice President
Ashley Holmes, Secretary
Amber Kelso, Treasurer*

March 1, 2022

Bill: HB 0836 – Public Schools – Student Athletics – Requirements and Reports (Elijah Gorkman Act)

Position: SUPPORT W/ AMENDMENTS

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice-Chair Washington, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Wes Robinson, ATC PT, and I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association (MATA) in support of HB 836. The MATA is our state representation for over 600 licensed Athletic Trainers, working in the high school, college, clinical, industrial, military and other settings. Athletic training encompasses the prevention, examination, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of emergent, acute or chronic injuries and medical conditions. Athletic training is recognized by the American Medical Association (AMA), Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as an allied health care profession. Athletic Trainers are experts in the field of sport safety and we are excited to lend our support to this legislation.

The MATA appreciates the willingness of the bill sponsors to work through amendments. Too many children suffer preventable injury or death in high school sports in Maryland and this bill will ensure the appropriate equipment and training is in place to protect children in Maryland during athletic participation.

I urge you to support HB 836 so that we can ensure the children of Maryland are safe while participating in athletics games and practices.

Thank you for your time.

Wes Robinson, ATC PT
Past - President
Maryland Athletic Trainers' Association

Maryland Athletic Trainer's Association