

Chair Atterbeary and Esteemed Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

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 1219: Public Schools- Cardiac Emergency Action Plan – Requirements.

While the MATA appreciates the intent of the bill, we have concerns.

1. During many athletic activities, the only consistent personal onsite is the coaching staff of the specific sport and an Athletic Trainer, if the school has one. On page 4 and line 1, "IDENTIFY THE APPROPRIATE SCHOOL PERSONNEL AS THE 2 CARDIAC EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM" poses difficulty with the lack of having consistent team members always available after school. The MATA worked with Senator Hettleman and former Delegate Lierman to pass previous legislation requiring Venue- Specific Emergency Action Plans to be created and practiced with every respective public high school sports team staff before the start of each season. This includes preparing and practicing responses for cardiac emergencies.
2. On page 4 and line 5, the bill puts liability on the school and the athletic staff to "IDENTIFY AND COORDINATE WITH FIRST RESPONDERS IN THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TO INTEGRATE THE CARDIAC EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN INTO LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROTOCOLS". However, what happens when local emergency medical services do not respond to the school? The MATA supports the language to be amended on page 3, line 29 to: A plan developed under this subsection **SHOULD:** instead of "A PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:"
3. On page 4, line 17: 3. "REQUIRING SPECIFIED SCHOOL PERSONNEL TO HAVE CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION (CPR) TRAINING AND AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7-425 OF THIS SUBTITLE, INCLUDING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM MEMBERS, ATHLETIC COACHING AND TRAINING STAFF, AND SCHOOL NURSES;" This is redundant as all public high school athletic coaches and training staff (volunteer and paid), school nurses, and Athletic Trainers are already required to be CPR, AED, and First Aid certified.

Please consider these concerns when discussing HB 1219.

Sincerely,

Jane McClean, MSHA LAT, ATC, CEIS
MATA Government Affairs Committee Chair

