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WOMEN LEGISLATORS OF MARYLAND
THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

To: Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Chair

Delegate, Jessica Feldmark, Vice Chair

Ways and Means Committee

The Maryland Women's Caucus proudly supports HB 1097 – Public Schools – Sports Injury Recordkeeping and Reporting – Requirements.

HB 1097 builds upon existing law by establishing a clear reporting requirement within § 7-455 of the Education Article. The bill requires public high schools to maintain comprehensive injury logs for incidents occurring during athletic events and mandates that each local school system submit an annual report on high school athletic injuries to the Maryland State Department of Education.

By ensuring consistent data collection and transparent reporting, this legislation allows for meaningful analysis of injuries sustained during school athletic activities. It will provide valuable insight into the types of injuries student-athletes experience, how frequently they occur, and the circumstances under which they happen. This information will equip legislators, educators, parents, and communities with the knowledge necessary to better assess risk and strengthen student safety protocols.

HB 1097 aligns directly with the mission of the Maryland Women's Caucus to protect the health and well-being of women, children, and families. Access to reliable injury data supports informed decision-making and fosters collaboration among schools, families, and policymakers to improve injury prevention strategies.

Ultimately, HB 1097 represents a practical and necessary step toward creating safer athletic environments for Maryland students. By promoting transparency and accountability, the bill advances student safety while preserving the benefits of participation in school sports.

For these reasons, the Maryland Women's Caucus respectfully urges a favorable report on HB 1097.