



## Protecting Student Athletes from Concussion Act of 2017

### *IMPROVING CONCUSSION RECOVERY THROUGH LOCALLY DEVELOPED SAFETY AND MANAGEMENT PLANS*

Athletic trainers are committed to ensuring that students who sustain a concussion or traumatic brain injury (TBI), return to athletic and academic activity as safely as possible. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates 2.8 million people in the United States sustain a TBI annually, with more than 300,000 children who are treated for sports and recreation-related concussions. These numbers might be drastically underestimated, as the CDC estimates that current data sources may capture only one out of every nine concussions across the country. Congress should pass the *Protecting Student Athletes from Concussion Act of 2017* to ensure that local school districts set up plans for student concussion safety and management.

## H.R. 3580

- **H.R. 3580 would direct the Secretary of Education to certify that local school agencies develop and implement standard plans for concussion safety and management.**
- **The bill would require that students suspected of sustaining a concussion during school-sponsored activities be removed from participation on the day the concussion is sustained and until a healthcare professional such as a nurse, athletic trainer, physical therapist, neuropsychologist or other qualified individual provides a written approval to resume participation in athletics.**
- **The health professional's written release may require the student to follow a plan incorporating periods of cognitive and physical rest while symptoms persist prior to returning to athletics.**
- **A school's concussion management team will consult and make recommendations regarding academic support and cognitive rest as a student returns to academics.**

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NATA Recommends Becoming a Co-Sponsor of H.R. 3580  
by contacting Ethan Van Ness, LA for Rep. Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA-11),  
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