

May 23, 2016

The Honorable Michael Burgess  
Chairman  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Janice Schakowsky  
Ranking Member  
House Energy & Commerce Committee  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Burgess and Ranking Member Schakowsky:

The Brain Injury Association of America (BIAA) is the nation's oldest and largest brain injury patient advocacy organization. BIAA supports the Youth Sports Concussion Act, HR 4460, sponsored by Representatives Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Thomas J. Rooney (R-Fla.), co-chairs of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) has introduced companion legislation in the United States Senate, S. 2508.

The Youth Sports Concussion Act expressed the sense of Congress that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) should review the National Academies' report on sports-related concussions and future research in such area for any matter that may impact products under the CPSC's jurisdiction or inform the FTC's efforts to protect consumers.

The bill makes it unlawful to sell or offer for sale in interstate commerce, or import into the United States for such purposes, athletic sporting equipment for which the seller or importer makes any deceptive claim with respect to the safety benefits of such an item. Violations shall be treated as unfair or deceptive acts or practices under the Federal Trade Commission Act. The bill sets forth the enforcement authority of the FTC. States may bring civil actions in federal court to obtain injunctive relief on behalf of state residents unless a civil or administrative action has already been instituted by the FTC. The FTC may intervene and appeal in state actions.

The Youth Sports Concussion Act is an important piece of legislation because it will protect our nation's youth who participate in sports related activities from concussions and other injuries by discouraging false advertising claims regarding protective equipment used in competitive

sports. Your efforts to prevent mild traumatic brain injury in our nation's youth are needed and welcomed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan H. Connors". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan H. Connors  
President/CEO