



National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

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May 19, 2016

Hon. Fred Upton, Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Michael Burgess, Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade
2125 Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Frank Pallone, Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Janice Schakowsky, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade
2322A Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Burgess and Ranking Members Pallone and Schakowsky:

On behalf of the National Association of Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA), thank you for considering H.R. 4460, the Youth Sports Concussion Act, sponsored by Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. and Congressman Tom Rooney, Co-chairs of the Congressional Brain injury Task Force. We support the legislation and appreciate your leadership in advancing this important bill forward. While there is no concussion-proof helmet, a helmet does help protect youth from a serious brain injury. To ensure that helmets are meeting standards, and are safe as possible, this bill makes it unlawful to sell or offer for sale in interstate commerce, or import into the United States for sale, athletic sporting equipment for which the seller or importer makes any deceptive claim in regards to the safety benefits of an item. Making known the truth behind such false equipment claims before parents, coaches or athletes purchase or use such items is vital to their well being.

Regardless of severity, a TBI can affect a person's behavior and cognitive abilities both in the short-term and long-term. The Youth Sports Concussion Act is one way to prevent injury among our nation's youth who participate in sports related activities. We applaud you for your previous efforts in this area, and we look forward to working with you to help advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Vaughn, Director of Public Policy
National Association of Head Injury Administrators (NASHIA)

cc: Cong. Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Cong. Tom Rooney
Lorraine Wargo, RN, Executive Director
Rebecca Wolfkiel