



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
House of Representatives  
State House, Boston 02133-1054

S.796  
Support

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August 26, 2009

The Honorable Susan C. Fargo, Senate Chair  
Joint Committee on Public Health  
State House, Room 504

The Honorable Jeffery Sanchez, House Chair  
Joint Committee on Public Health  
State House, Room 130

**Re: An Act Relating to safety regulations for school athletic programs (S.796)**

Dear Chairman Fargo and Chairman Sanchez:

I am writing in full support of Senate Bill No. 796, *act relating to safety regulations for school athletic programs*. I respectfully ask that the Committee issue a favorable report on S.796, and allow this matter to continue in the legislative process.

The passage of this bill will require the Division of Violence and Injury Prevention to develop an interscholastic athletic Head Injury Safety Training program. The Department will teach school employees and volunteers assisting with extracurricular athletic activities to recognize the symptoms of potentially catastrophic injuries, including head and neck injuries, concussions, and injuries related to second impact syndrome. This program will help prevent these injuries from occurring, and also give school employees the proper tools to react appropriately and efficiently if the situation does arise.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this issue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David B. Sullivan".

**David B. Sullivan**  
State Representative