



George M. Roberts, MEd, LAT, ATC
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President

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January 16, 2019

Honorable Ed Neilson
107 East Wing
PO Box 202174
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2174

Dear Representative Neilson:

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATs) would like to express our support of your intended legislation that would require students in high schools to be trained in CPR.

Athletic Trainers are licensed healthcare professionals in the Commonwealth and our goal is to enhance the health and welfare of our patients by providing prevention, diagnosis and intervention of emergency, acute, and chronic medical conditions.

According to American Heart Association, "Cardiac arrest...is a leading cause of death. CPR ... can double or triple a person's chance of survival." Empowering our youth with this knowledge could lead to increased survival rates for our citizens. According to School CPR, 38 states and the District of Columbia require mandatory CPR training prior to graduation; three other states have guidelines for providing CPR to students. <https://schoolcpr.com/about/states-where-cpr-training-is-mandatory-for-high-school-graduation/>

PATs strongly supports your efforts to improve the health and well-being of the citizens in the Commonwealth by helping to reduce the possibility of death from a cardiac event.

Information on PATs or Athletic Trainers can be found at www.gopats.org. PATs is willing to be of any assistance that you would need. Please contact me at president@gopats.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

George M. Roberts, MEd, LAT, ATC
PATs President

The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life

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