



**George M. Roberts, MEd, LAT, ATC**  
Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc.  
*President*

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April 2, 2020

Honorable Rosemary M. Brown  
210 Ryan Office Building  
PO Box 202189  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2189

Dear Representative Brown:

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATs) wholly supports HR 812 designating the week of June 1 - June 7, 2020 as "AED Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

PATs represents over 3000 Athletic Trainers in the Commonwealth. Athletic Trainers are healthcare professionals that work in many settings including secondary schools, collegiate athletics, as physician extenders, in rehabilitation and occupational clinics and in hospitals. Athletic Trainers protect and enhance the health and welfare of the individuals we care for through the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions, including sudden cardiac issues that require the use of an AED.

Public safety, injury and illness prevention, and early intervention are keystones to the practice of athletic training. Athletic Trainers have been involved in saving the lives of numerous individuals across the Commonwealth with the help of AEDs. Early intervention with an AED in the event of a sudden cardiac issue increases the chance of survival. The Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation reports that victims of sudden cardiac arrest can survive with the use of immediate CPR and early defibrillation, ideally within three to five minutes after collapse. Athletic Trainers are uniquely located in interscholastic, collegiate and professional athletics, as well as other settings, to be able to provide early recognition of a sudden cardiac event, to activate the local emergency response system and to provide early resuscitation and defibrillation with the use of an AED.

PATs is willing to be of any assistance that you would need. Please contact me at [presidentPATs01@gmail.com](mailto:presidentPATs01@gmail.com) 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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