



The Honorable Scott Lipps
Ohio House of Representatives
77 S. High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

May 14, 2020

Dear Chairman Lipps and members of the House Health Committee:

I am writing to express my support for HB 484 (Carfagna, Abrams) Athletic Training, which is currently pending before the House Health Committee. My name is Robert S Crawford MD CAQSM, and I am a Board Certified Primary Care Sports Medicine Physician at Summa Health. I have worked with athletic trainers in their capacity to provide health care services for 29 years as Team Physicians for High School, Collegiate and Professional sports teams.

As a part of the healthcare team, services provided by ATs include injury and illness prevention, wellness promotion and education, emergent care, examination and clinical diagnosis, therapeutic intervention, and rehabilitation of injuries and medical conditions. The bill before the Committee updates the athletic training scope of practice act, which has not had a comprehensive update since its original enactment nearly 30 years ago. Similar to other health care professions, athletic training has evolved over the years along with the changes in therapeutic interventions, the delivery of care models, training and education changes.

The changes in the bill will further strengthen the care coordination model with the physician serving at the center of the care and the athletic trainer working closely with the patient to deliver optimal health outcomes. The bill will formalize the relationship through a collaboration agreement. It will also recognize that athletic trainers as licensed health care providers, may be able to administer life-saving prescription drugs, such as an epi-pen. In addition, with the national education requirements of all graduating entry level athletic trainers to have a master's of athletic training from a CAATE program in 2022, the bill will ensure athletic trainers in Ohio will be able to practice at the top of their license.

With the passage of HB 484 athletic trainers in Ohio will be able to practice at the top of their license to ensure we retain athletic trainers, and attract graduates to practice in Ohio. Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. I respectfully request your support of HB 484.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Crawford, MD CAQSM