

April 14, 2016

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
House Energy & Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
House Energy & Commerce Committee
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone:

As the committee prepares to consider legislation for the next executive session, the below organizations seek your leadership in advancing the Youth Sports Concussion Act, HR 4460, sponsored by Representatives Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Thomas J. Rooney (R-Fla.), co-chairs of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) has introduced companion legislation in the United States Senate, S. 2508. The undersigned organizations are appreciative of your leadership in promoting a conversation around concussion with your recently held *Concussion Roundtable*.

The Youth Sports Concussion Act expressed the sense of Congress that the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) should review the National Academies' report on sports-related concussions and future research in such area for any matter that may impact products under the CPSC's jurisdiction or inform the FTC's efforts to protect consumers.

The bill makes it unlawful to sell or offer for sale in interstate commerce, or import into the United States for such purposes, athletic sporting equipment for which the seller or importer makes any deceptive claim with respect to the safety benefits of such an item. Violations shall be treated as unfair or deceptive acts or practices under the Federal Trade Commission Act. The bill sets forth the enforcement authority of the FTC. States may bring civil actions in federal court to obtain injunctive relief on behalf of state residents unless a civil or administrative action has already been instituted by the FTC. The FTC may intervene and appeal in state actions.

The Youth Sports Concussion Act is an important piece of legislation because it will protect our nation's youth who participate in sports related activities from concussions and other injuries by discouraging false advertising claims regarding protective equipment used in competitive sports. Your efforts to prevent mild traumatic brain injury in our nation's youth are needed and welcomed. We request the committee acts swiftly to move this legislation forward.

Sincerely,

ACCSES

Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals

Advance CLASS, Inc.

American Academy of Neurology

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

American Association on Health and Disability

American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine

American Dance Therapy Association

American Foundation for the Blind

American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association

American Music Therapy Association

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Therapeutic Recreation Association

Amputee Coalition

Association of Academic Physiatrists

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses

Brain Injury Association of America

Child Neurology Foundation

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

Center for Medicare Advocacy

Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund

Easter Seals

Falling Forward

Friends of the TBI Model Systems

Lakeshore Foundation

Learning Disabilities Association of America

National Association of Advancement of Orthotics and Prosthetics

NARRTC, formally the National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers

National Association of State Directors of Special Education

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

National Disability Rights Network

Safe States Alliance

School Social Work Association of America

The Advocacy Institute

United States Brain Injury Alliance