

From: GOODLETT, GWYNNE <GOODLETG@mailbox.sc.edu>
To: Veldran, KatherineKatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov
Date: 8/15/2013 2:05:18 PM
Subject: RE: Thank you - Gov. Nikki Haley signs Student Athletes Concussion bill

Thank you very much, Katherine. It was a pleasure working with you.

From: Veldran, Katherine [mailto:KatherineVeldran@gov.sc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2013 11:34 AM
To: Mike Fair (mikefair@charter.net); Peter McCoy; GOODLETT, GWYNNE
Subject: Thank you - Gov. Nikki Haley signs Student Athletes Concussion bill

Thank you for all you do!
Katherine

Katherine F. Veldran
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From: Mayer, Doug
Sent: Thursday, August 15, 2013 11:31 AM
Subject: Gov. Nikki Haley signs Student Athletes Concussion bill

Gov. Nikki Haley signs Student Athletes Concussion bill *H.3061 promoting concussion awareness and prevention*

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley participated in a ceremonial bill signing today for H.3061, the Student Athletes Concussion bill. H.3061 works to advance the identification and treatment of concussions in student athletes, focusing on concussion awareness and prevention.

“As a governor I fully support this legislation, but as a mother with a son who plays basketball and a daughter who is a cheerleader, this bill is personally important to me,” said Gov. Nikki Haley. “It tells me as a mother what to watch out for and more importantly, I know that if there is an injury, the school and coaches are going to know what to do – that the school district has a plan in place. This is about quality of life for our kids and I am proud to be part of it.”

The governor was joined by representatives from the South Carolina Joint Citizens and Legislative Committee on Children, Brain Injury Association of South Carolina, South Carolina Athletic Trainers’ Association, Clemson University, University of South Carolina, Carolina Panthers, and athletic directors, principals, coaches and student athletes from around the state.

“During my time as a USC quarterback, I had several concussions and research now tells us that when a young person gets even a single concussion, there can be life-long consequences,” said State Senator Mike Fair. “The unanimous passage of this bill in the General Assembly and the governor’s resounding support means that we will now have model protocols across the state to prevent, recognize, and treat head trauma in student athletes.”

“Protecting our youth is critical to preserving our society and I am thankful that my colleagues supported this legislation to enhance the safety of our student athletes,” said State Representative Peter McCoy. “I am proud that we did this without costing the taxpayers additional money through the use of existing research and communication means.”

“The player safety initiative is important to the National Football League on every level and in passing the student athletes bill, the state of South Carolina is taking an important step in the prevention and treatment of concussions that occur in student athletes,” said Jerry Richardson, owner and founder of the Carolina Panthers. “We applaud the leadership of Governor Haley and the legislature in better protecting the young athletes of South Carolina.”

Bill background –

- Bill creates section of code targeted at reducing, identifying, and treating concussions in student athletes.
- Requires that nationally credentialed guidelines for the identification and treatment of concussions be posted on DHEC and S.C. Department of Education websites. Guidelines will apply to all high school sanctioned athletic events.
- Requires local school districts to develop and implement guidelines based on state standards.
- For students to participate in athletics, parents or guardians will receive and provide written acknowledgement of receipt of guidelines.
- Students suspected of having a concussion during play or practice must be removed from activities, but may be reinstated following a medical assessment and the determination that a concussion is not suspected.
- Students who, after evaluation, have a suspected concussion must have physician clearance prior to reengaging in play or practice.
- Passed Senate (36-0), House (109-0)

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