

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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City Council Bill 22-0241 Youth Football – Presence of Emergency Medical Services

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Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) has reviewed City Council Bill 22-0241, which seeks to require youth sports programs to have emergency medical services personnel present at all youth football games in which youth athletes participate. Specifically, a youth sports program must have an emergency medical technician or paramedic from the Baltimore City Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services division present at all football games in which youth athletes participate.

City Schools notes, upon legal review, that the proposed legislation is not intended to cover sports programs organized by the district, but rather is focused on independently operated youth sports programs.

By way of background, City Schools already requires the presence of emergency medical technicians at contact sports games, including both football and lacrosse. The district also requires coaches to obtain multiple health and safety certifications.

City Schools is committed to ongoing, continuous improvement and review of our health and safety practices, training, and protocols and programming for interscholastic athletics for potential enhancements. While Council Bill 22-0241 does not encompass the district, we appreciate the Council's attention to this important matter and stand ready to contribute to the discussion, if helpful.