


F R O M	Name & Title	Mary Beth Haller, Esq., Interim Commissioner	Health Department AGENCY REPORT	
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	Subject: Position:	CC #19-0337 NO POSITION		

To: President and Members
of the City Council
c/o 409 City Hall

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The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review City Council bill #19-0337, entitled "Youth Athletic Protection." This legislation will require coaches to complete trainings in concussion risk, heat exhaustion risk, cardiac arrest risk, and heat stroke risk and management. This legislation also mandates that all coaches be trained in defibrillator operation. Coaches may not receive a permit to use Baltimore City Department of Recreations and Parks facilities without documentation that the applicant and all other coaches associated with the program have completed the requirements. Coaches will also be required to report cases of abuse and neglect of athletes. Under this legislation, youth athletes will also be removed from athletic games if suspected to have certain medical conditions.

BCHD is supportive of the intent behind this bill, which is to protect the well-being of Baltimore City's youth athletes. Approximately 8,000 children are treated in emergency rooms for sports-related injuries every day across the United States.¹ Moreover, there were 49 sports-related deaths of young athletes in 2010, and 39 in 2011.²

Altogether, BCHD believes that City Council bill #19-0337 includes many well-intentioned steps toward reducing the risks associated with youth athletics. However, with the understanding that BCHD is not charged with implementing the various provisions of this bill, we defer to the Department of Recreation and Parks and take **no position** on Council Bill #19-0337.

¹ Youth Sports Safety Commission Report. 2013,
<https://www.youthsportssafetysalliance.org/sites/default/files/docs/Statistics-2013.pdf>.

² Ibid.