



## **Support HB 190: Amendment of the Code of Virginia to permit licensed athletic trainers to administer oxygen under protocol in emergency situations**

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### **What is the current situation?**

- Athletic trainers are licensed by the Board of Medicine to prevent, recognize, evaluate and treat injuries or conditions related to athletic or recreational activity that requires physical skill (§ 54.1-2900)
- The Drug Control Act permits athletic trainers, under oral or written order or standing protocol issued by a prescriber to possess and administer topical corticosteroids, topical lidocaine, or other Schedule VI topical drugs and to possess and administer epinephrine in emergency cases of anaphylactic shock (§ 54.1-3408).
- Recent updates in athletic trainer education include administration of oxygen in emergency situations. The most common use is in the situation of athletes with sickle cell trait experiencing symptoms of hypoxia (lack of oxygen) that can lead to exertional rhabdomyolysis (breakdown of damaged skeletal muscle tissue). Other uses may include shock and/or hemorrhage.
- At the present time, athletic trainers cannot administer oxygen under protocol.

### **What will HB 190 do?**

- HB 190 will amend § 54.1-3408 (the Drug Control Act) to add oxygen to the list of controlled substances that athletic trainers will be permitted to carry and administer.
- Oxygen will only be permitted under oral or written order or standing order by a prescriber and only in emergency situations.

### **What will be the impact of passing HB 190?**

- Passing HB 190 will enable athletic trainers to administer oxygen in the event that a patient suffers a complication related to lack of oxygen. Administering supplemental oxygen may help save the life of a patient.

**Please vote “yes” for HB 190**