

Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
Email: Ron.DeSantis@myflorida.com
Phone: (850)488-7146

RE: The Zachary Martin Act

Dear Governor DeSantis:

I am writing this letter in support of the proposed safety bill that has received favorable, unanimous votes in the Florida House of Representatives and Senate. I fully believe this legislation will save lives and is necessary to provide leadership and guidance to our schools regarding sports safety. Heat stroke is 100% preventable and 100% survivable if we are properly prepared, and AED's and training for school personnel will give our kids the best chance for surviving Sudden Cardiac Arrest.

Laurie Martin-Giordano is the mother of Zach Martin, a 16 year old young man who died from exertional heat stroke at a Florida high school in 2017. She has been speaking at each House and Senate committee meeting in support of this bill. She has been an advocate for safety in high school sports since 2017, speaking at meetings and conferences about Exertional Heat Illness prevention, donating cold water immersion tubs to Florida high schools, and pleading with the Florida High School Athletic Association for two years to set mandatory minimum safety guidelines and life-saving equipment. She has recently made me aware of the FHSAA's decision to only strongly suggest these guidelines and that another young man died as a result of exertional heat stroke in the summer of 2019. These completely preventable deaths cannot continue in the state of Florida.

I want you to know that you have my full support to sign the Zachary Martin Act in order to provide best practice standards for the health and safety of Florida's young people.

Thank you for your attention to this very important legislation.

Sincerely,