

**HB**

**160**

<TARGET><BILL>HB 160</BILL><SUBJECT>HB  
160</SUBJECT><COMM>HFIN28</COMM></TARGET>



# Fiscal Note

State of Alaska  
2014 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 160  
Fiscal Note Number: 1  
(H) Publish Date: 4/3/14

Identifier: HB160-DCCED-CBPL-03-28-14  
Title: LICENSING OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS  
Sponsor: THOMPSON BY REQUEST  
Requester: House Labor & Commerce

Department: Department of Commerce, Community and  
Economic Development  
Appropriation: Corporations, Business and Professional  
Licensing  
Allocation: Corporations, Business and Professional  
Licensing  
OMB Component Number: 2360

**Expenditures/Revenues**

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

|                               | FY2015                  | Included in               | Out-Year Cost Estimates |                |                |                |                |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|                               | Appropriation Requested | Governor's FY2015 Request | FY 2016                 | FY 2017        | FY 2018        | FY 2019        | FY 2020        |
| <b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b> | <b>FY 2015</b>          | <b>FY 2015</b>            | <b>FY 2016</b>          | <b>FY 2017</b> | <b>FY 2018</b> | <b>FY 2019</b> | <b>FY 2020</b> |
| Personal Services             |                         |                           |                         |                |                |                |                |
| Travel                        |                         |                           |                         |                |                |                |                |
| Services                      | 47.9                    |                           | 4.8                     | 4.8            | 4.8            | 4.8            | 4.8            |
| Commodities                   | 0.2                     |                           | 0.2                     | 0.2            | 0.2            | 0.2            | 0.2            |
| Capital Outlay                |                         |                           |                         |                |                |                |                |
| Grants & Benefits             |                         |                           |                         |                |                |                |                |
| Miscellaneous                 |                         |                           |                         |                |                |                |                |
| <b>Total Operating</b>        | <b>48.1</b>             | <b>0.0</b>                | <b>5.0</b>              | <b>5.0</b>     | <b>5.0</b>     | <b>5.0</b>     | <b>5.0</b>     |

**Fund Source (Operating Only)**

|                |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|----------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 1156 Rcpt Svcs | 48.1        |            | 5.0        | 5.0        | 5.0        | 5.0        | 5.0        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>48.1</b> | <b>0.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> | <b>5.0</b> |

**Positions**

|           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Full-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Part-time |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Temporary |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|                           |      |  |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------|------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>Change in Revenues</b> | 48.1 |  | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
|---------------------------|------|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

**Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2014) cost:** 0.0 *(separate supplemental appropriation required)*  
*(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**Estimated CAPITAL (FY2015) cost:** 0.0 *(separate capital appropriation required)*  
*(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)*

**ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS**

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes  
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 07/01/15

**Why this fiscal note differs from previous version:**

Not applicable, initial version.

Prepared By: Don Habeger, Director  
Division: Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Approved By: Jeanne Mungle, Director  
Agency: Administrative Services

Phone: (907)465-2536  
Date: 03/28/2014 08:00 AM  
Date: 03/28/14

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS #1

STATE OF ALASKA  
2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. HB 160

**Analysis**

HB160 creates a new program within the Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development for the professional licensing of Athletic Trainers.

The addition of this program requires startup expenses to configure the professional licensing database, develop and implement regulations, purchase supplies, and establish program procedures. Licensing fees for each program are set per AS 08.01.065 so the revenue collected equals the occupation's regulatory costs.

Costs for establishing and maintaining the new license program are based on existing programs of similar size and consist of the following:

Services: One time IT costs of to incorporate the new licensing program into the professional licensing database, \$35.2; legal support services of related to new program implementation, \$11.9; hearing and mediation services beginning in year two, \$4.3; One time costs for advertising public notices of regulations, \$0.3; On going printing and mailing costs, \$0.5.

Commodities: Business supplies, \$0.2.

After consulting the professional standards issued by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department, the department shall adopt regulations to protect the public, ensure quality patient care, and regulate the licensing of athletic trainers that include

- (1) minimum standards for licensure as an athletic trainer;
- (2) minimum standards of care for practice as an athletic trainer; and
- (3) continuing education requirements.

In addition to the above, this program will be charged for existing staff time reallocated to this program and for indirect services. Management and administrative support indirect services are allocated annually to all licensing programs. Although increased authorization is not needed for these services, a share of these costs will be considered as part of the program's total costs during the biennial review of licensing fees.

Adopted 4/10/14

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

WORK DRAFT

28-LS0423\P  
Martin  
4/10/14

**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 160(FIN)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered:  
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON BY REQUEST

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.01.010 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

4 (39) regulation of athletic trainers under AS 08.07.

5 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

6 **Chapter 07. Athletic Trainers.**

7 **Sec. 08.07.010. License required.** (a) An individual may not practice or offer  
8 to practice athletic training, or allow another person to offer athletic training by the  
9 individual, in the state without being licensed under this chapter, unless the individual

10 (1) is a student in an accredited athletic trainer program who is  
11 practicing athletic training under the supervision of an athletic trainer or a person  
12 licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64;

13 (2) is licensed, certified, or registered as an athletic trainer in another  
14 state and is present in the state for not more than 90 days in a calendar year for a  
15 specific athletic event or series of athletic events with an individual or group not based

1 in the state; or

2 (3) is in the military service of the United States or as an employee of  
3 the federal government performing athletic training services within the scope of the  
4 individual's official duties.

5 (b) This section does not prohibit a person licensed under another chapter of  
6 this title from performing functions defined as athletic training if those functions are  
7 within the scope of that person's license and the person does not use a title listed in (c)  
8 of this section.

9 (c) Unless licensed under this chapter, or exempted under (a)(2) or (3) of this  
10 section, an individual may not use the titles "athletic trainer," "licensed athletic  
11 trainer," "certified athletic trainer," "athletic trainer certified," "A.T.," "A.T.L.,"  
12 "C.A.T.," "A.T.C.," or any combination of those terms to indicate that the individual is  
13 a licensed athletic trainer.

14 **Sec. 08.07.020. Qualifications for license; fee; renewal.** (a) The department  
15 shall issue an athletic trainer license to an individual who

- 16 (1) applies to the department on a form provided by the department;  
17 (2) meets the requirements established in regulation by the department;  
18 (3) pays the fees established by the department; and  
19 (4) provides proof of certification by the Board of Certification, Inc.,  
20 or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

21 (b) An athletic trainer license may be renewed upon proof of certification by  
22 the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional  
23 association approved by the department and as provided in AS 08.01.100.

24 **Sec. 08.07.030. Scope of practice of athletic trainers.** (a) An athletic trainer  
25 may practice athletic training only under the supervision of a person licensed to  
26 practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64. In this subsection, "supervision"  
27 means the physician authorizes a procedure and the procedure is performed by the  
28 athletic trainer in accordance with the physician's diagnosis and treatment plan.

29 (b) An athletic trainer shall immediately refer an athlete to an appropriate  
30 licensed health care professional if the athletic trainer determines that athletic training  
31 is contraindicated or the symptoms or conditions present require treatment outside the

1 scope of practice of an athletic trainer.

2 (c) The practice of an athletic trainer includes

3 (1) the treatment of an athlete for injury or illness prevention;

4 (2) the clinical evaluation and assessment of an athlete for an injury  
5 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
6 activity;

7 (3) the immediate care and treatment of an athlete for an injury  
8 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
9 activity; and

10 (4) the rehabilitation and reconditioning of an athlete from injury  
11 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
12 activity.

13 (d) In this section, "health care professional" means a physician, nurse, and  
14 physician assistant, but does not include a practitioner of religious healing.

15 **Sec. 08.07.040. Regulations.** After consulting the professional standards  
16 issued by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized  
17 professional association approved by the department, the department shall adopt  
18 regulations to protect the public, ensure quality patient care, and regulate the licensing  
19 of athletic trainers that include

20 (1) minimum standards for licensure as an athletic trainer;

21 (2) minimum standards of care for practice as an athletic trainer; and

22 (3) continuing education requirements.

23 **Sec. 08.07.090. Definitions.** In this chapter,

24 (1) "athlete" means an individual who participates in an organized  
25 sport or sport-related exercise or activity, including interscholastic, intercollegiate,  
26 intramural, semiprofessional, and professional sports activities;

27 (2) "athletic trainer" means an individual who is licensed under  
28 AS 08.07.020 to practice athletic training in this state;

29 (3) "athletic training" means the treatment of an athlete under the  
30 direction of a physician licensed under AS 08.64 to manage risk of injury and prevent  
31 injury, evaluate clinically, assess, and treat an athlete's injury or illness, and

1 rehabilitate and recondition that athlete.

2 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 09.65.300(c)(1) is amended to read:

3 (1) "health care provider" means a state licensed physician, physician  
4 assistant, dentist, dental hygienist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor, registered  
5 nurse, practical nurse, nurse midwife, advanced nurse practitioner, naturopath,  
6 physical therapist, occupational therapist, marital and family therapist, psychologist,  
7 psychological associate, licensed clinical social worker, **athletic trainer**, or certified  
8 direct-entry midwife;

9 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 47.17.290(14) is amended to read:

10 (14) "practitioner of the healing arts" includes **athletic trainers**,  
11 chiropractors, mental health counselors, social workers, dental hygienists, dentists,  
12 health aides, nurses, nurse practitioners, certified nurse aides, occupational therapists,  
13 occupational therapy assistants, optometrists, osteopaths, naturopaths, physical  
14 therapists, physical therapy assistants, physicians, physician's assistants, psychiatrists,  
15 psychologists, psychological associates, audiologists and speech-language pathologists  
16 licensed under AS 08.11, hearing aid dealers licensed under AS 08.55, marital and  
17 family therapists licensed under AS 08.63, religious healing practitioners,  
18 acupuncturists, and surgeons;

19 \* **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
20 read:

21 **APPLICABILITY.** The license requirement in AS 08.07.010, enacted by sec. 2 of this  
22 Act,

23 (1) applies immediately to a person who has

24 (A) never practiced athletic training, as defined in AS 08.07.090,  
25 enacted by sec. 2 of this Act, before the effective date of this Act; or

26 (B) has practiced athletic training in the state, but does not meet the  
27 requirements of (2) of this section; and

28 (2) does not apply until two years after the effective date of this Act to a  
29 person who has been practicing athletic training in this state for at least three of the five years  
30 immediately preceding the effective date of this Act and is certified by the Board of  
31 Certification, Inc., and practicing athletic training within the scope of that certification.

Withdrawn

28-LS0423\O.1

Martin

4/10/14

AMENDMENT #1

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE TAMMIE WILSON

TO: HB 160

1 Page 2, line 25, following "the":

2       Insert "direct"

3

4 Page 3, line 30:

5       Delete "direction"

6       Insert "direct supervision"

**HOUSE BILL NO. 160**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

**BY REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON BY REQUEST**

**Introduced: 3/11/13**

**Referred: Labor and Commerce, Finance**

**A BILL**

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6 **Chapter 07. Athletic Trainers.**

7 **Sec. 08.07.010. License required.** (a) An individual may not practice or offer  
8 to practice athletic training, or allow another person to offer athletic training by the  
9 individual, in the state without being licensed under this chapter, unless the individual

10 (1) is a student in an accredited athletic trainer program who is  
11 practicing athletic training under the supervision of an athletic trainer or a person  
12 licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64;

13 (2) is licensed, certified, or registered as an athletic trainer in another  
14 state and is present in the state for not more than 90 days in a calendar year for a  
15 specific athletic event or series of athletic events with an individual or group not based

1 in the state;

2 OR

Insert

3 (3) is in the military service of the United States or as an employee of  
4 the federal government performing athletic training services within the scope of the  
5 individual's official duties.

6 (b) This section does not prohibit a person licensed under another chapter of  
7 this title from performing functions defined as athletic training if those functions are  
8 within the scope of that person's license and the person does not use a title listed in (c)  
9 of this section.

10 (c) Unless licensed under this chapter, or exempted under (a)(2) or (3) of this  
11 section, an individual may not use the titles "athletic trainer," "licensed athletic  
12 trainer," "certified athletic trainer," "athletic trainer certified," "A.T.," "A.T.L.,"  
13 "C.A.T.," "A.T.C.," or any combination of those terms to indicate that the individual is  
14 a licensed athletic trainer.

15 **Sec. 08.07.020. Qualifications for license; fee; renewal.** (a) The department  
16 shall issue an athletic trainer license to an individual who

- 17 (1) applies to the department on a form provided by the department;
- 18 (2) meets the requirements established in regulation by the department;
- 19 (3) pays the fees established by the department; and
- 20 (4) provides proof of certification by the Board of Certification, Inc.,

21 or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

22 (b) An athletic trainer license may be renewed upon proof of certification by  
23 the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional  
24 association approved by the department and as provided in AS 08.01.100.

25 **Sec. 08.07.030. Scope of practice of athletic trainers.** (a) An athletic trainer  
26 may practice athletic training only under the supervision of a person licensed to  
27 practice medicine or osteopathy under AS 08.64. In this subsection, "supervision"  
28 means the physician authorizes a procedure and the procedure is performed by the  
29 athletic trainer in accordance with the physician's diagnosis and treatment plan.

30 (b) An athletic trainer shall immediately refer an athlete to an appropriate  
31 licensed health care professional if the athletic trainer determines that athletic training  
is contraindicated or the symptoms or conditions present require treatment outside the

1 scope of practice of an athletic trainer.

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4 (2) the clinical evaluation and assessment of an athlete for an injury  
5 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
6 activity;

7 (3) the immediate care and treatment of an athlete for an injury  
8 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
9 activity; and

10 (4) the rehabilitation and reconditioning of an athlete from injury  
11 sustained or exacerbated while participating in a sport or sport-related exercise or  
12 activity.

13 (d) In this section, "health care professional" means a physician, nurse, and  
14 physician assistant, but does not include a practitioner of religious healing.

15 **Sec. 08.07.040. Regulations.** After consulting the professional standards  
16 issued by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized  
17 professional association approved by the department, the department shall adopt  
18 regulations to protect the public, ensure quality patient care, and regulate the licensing  
19 of athletic trainers that include

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21 (2) minimum standards of care for practice as an athletic trainer; and

22 (3) continuing education requirements.

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24 (1) "athlete" means an individual who participates in an organized  
25 sport or sport-related exercise or activity, including interscholastic, intercollegiate,  
26 intramural, semiprofessional, and professional sports activities;

27 (2) "athletic trainer" means an individual who is licensed under AS  
28 08.07.020 to practice athletic training in this state;

29 (3) "athletic training" means the treatment of an athlete under the  
30 direction of a physician licensed under AS 08.64 to manage risk of injury and prevent  
31 injury, evaluate clinically, assess, and treat an athlete's injury or illness, and

1 rehabilitate and recondition that athlete.

2 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 09.65.300(c)(1) is amended to read:

3 (1) "health care provider" means a state licensed physician, physician  
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5 nurse, practical nurse, nurse midwife, advanced nurse practitioner, naturopath,  
6 physical therapist, occupational therapist, marital and family therapist, psychologist,  
7 psychological associate, licensed clinical social worker, athletic trainer, or certified  
8 direct-entry midwife;

9 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 47.17.290(13) is amended to read:

10 (13) "practitioner of the healing arts" includes athletic trainers,  
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12 health aides, nurses, nurse practitioners, certified nurse aides, occupational therapists,  
13 occupational therapy assistants, optometrists, osteopaths, naturopaths, physical  
14 therapists, physical therapy assistants, physicians, physician's assistants, psychiatrists,  
15 psychologists, psychological associates, audiologists and speech-language pathologists  
16 licensed under AS 08.11, hearing aid dealers licensed under AS 08.55, marital and  
17 family therapists licensed under AS 08.63, religious healing practitioners,  
18 acupuncturists, and surgeons;

19 \* **Sec. 5.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to  
20 read:

21 APPLICABILITY. The license requirement in AS 08.07.010, enacted by sec. 2 of this  
22 Act,

23 (1) applies immediately to a person who has

24 (A) never practiced athletic training, as defined in AS 08.07.090,  
25 enacted by sec. 2 of this Act, before the effective date of this Act; or

26 (B) has practiced athletic training in the state, but does not meet the  
27 requirements of (2) of this section; and

28 (2) does not apply until two years after the effective date of this Act to a  
29 person who has been practicing athletic training in this state for at least three of the five years  
30 immediately preceding the effective date of this Act and is certified by the Board of  
31 Certification, Inc., and practicing athletic training within the scope of that certification.

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**Session:**

**State Capitol Building  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-2186  
Phone (907) 465-3004  
Fax: (907) 465-2070  
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004**



**Interim:**

**1292 Sadler Way  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Phone: (907) 452-1088  
Fax: (907) 452-1146  
Toll Free: (877) 465-3004**

## REPRESENTATIVE STEVE THOMPSON

### SPONSOR STATEMENT FOR HB 160

*"An Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers"*

House Bill (HB) 160 would amend current statutes to establish licensing and regulation of athletic trainers in the State of Alaska.

Athletic Trainers are healthcare professionals who collaborate with physicians to enhance the practice of sports medicine for patients and clients. This profession plays a significant role in the management, prevention, recognition and rehabilitation of injured athletes under the supervision of a licensed physician. Athletic trainers are a vital resource in administering injury prevention and treatment programs, as well as immediate emergency care for the sport and athletic community.

Alaska is one of the final two states that doesn't currently license athletic trainers. HB 160 will require athletic trainers to have a license to practice in the State of Alaska. HB 160 will hold athletic trainers accountable to the rigorous standards of the Board of Certification, INC; a national agency created to certify healthcare professions and assure the protection of the public. As Alaskans become increasingly more active the need for properly trained and licensed athletic trainers becomes imperative. Please support the passage of HB 160.

# LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101

State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

March 13, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Licensing of athletic trainers (HB 160)  
(Work Order No. 28-LS0423\O)

**TO:** Representative Steve Thompson  
Attn: Brodie Anderson

**FROM:** Hilary Martin *Hilary Martin*  
Legislative Counsel

You have requested a sectional summary of the above-described bill.

As a preliminary matter, note that a sectional summary of a bill should not be considered an authoritative interpretation of the bill; the bill itself is the best statement of its contents.

**Section 1** adds regulation of athletic trainers to AS 08.01.010.

**Section 2** adds a new chapter to AS 08 regarding athletic trainers.

**Sec. 08.07.010** requires a license to practice athletic training, unless the person is a student in an accredited athletic trainer program, is licensed in another state and present in the state for not more than 90 days for a specific athletic event, or is in the military service or an employee of the federal government.

**Sec. 08.07.020** requires the department to issue a license to a person who applies to the department, pays the fees, provides proof of certification by the Board of Certification, Inc., and meets any other requirements established in regulation by the department. Requires proof of certification in the Board of Certification, Inc., or another recognized professional association approved by the department in order to renew a license.

**Sec. 08.07.030** sets out the scope of practice for an athletic trainer. An athletic trainer may only practice under the supervision of a person licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy.

**Sec. 08.07.040** requires the department to adopt regulations regarding licensing of athletic trainers after consulting the professional standards issued by the Board of Certification, Inc., or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department.

Representative Steve Thompson  
March 13, 2013  
Page 2

Sec. 08.07.090 defines "athlete," "athletic trainer," and "athletic training."

Section 3 adds athletic trainer to the list of health care providers in AS 09.65.300(c)(1).

Section 4 adds athletic trainers to the list of practitioners of the healing arts in AS 47.17.290(13).

Section 5 applies the licensing requirements immediately to a person who has never practiced athletic training in the state, or two years after the effective date of the Act for a person who has been practicing athletic training in the state for at least three of the five previous years and is certified by the Board of Certification, Inc.

HVM:lnd  
13-145.lnd



# Representative Steve Thompson

Alaska State Legislature

District 3

## HB 160 Licensing of Athletic Trainers

### Sectional Analysis

| <u>Section</u> | <u>Statute</u> | <u>Change</u>                   | <u>Purpose or Effect</u>   |
|----------------|----------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 1              | AS 08.01.010   | Add new paragraph               | Adds athletic trainers to AS 08.07   |
| 2              | AS 08          | Add new chapter                 | <b><u>Chapter 7 Athletic Trainers</u></b>  |
|                |                | Add new section<br>AS 08.07.010 | License required<br>a) Athletic trainers will require licensing through this chapter except for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student exemption</li> <li>2. Out of state licensed athletic trainer</li> <li>3. Military Service or Federal Employee performing official duties</li> </ol> b) If a person is licensed under a different title but functions include duties the same or similar to this chapter the person can continue to perform duties as long as they do not use title<br>c) Exclusive use for titles "athletic trainer", licensed athletic trainer", certified athletic trainer", "athletic trainer certified", "A.T.", A.T.L.", "C.A.T.", "A.T.C." or any combination reflecting the individual as a licensed athletic trainer. |
|                |                | Add new section<br>AS 08.07.020 | <b><u>Qualification for license; fee; renewal</u></b><br>a) A license is issued to an individual who <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Applies to the Department</li> <li>2. Meets requirement established in regulation</li> <li>3. Pays the fees</li> <li>4. Provides proof of certification by the Board of Certification, INC. or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the Department</li> </ol> b) Provided by AS 08.01.100, an athletic trainer may renew a license by providing proof of certification by the Board of Certification, INC. or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the Department   |

|   |              |                                      |   |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------------|---|
|   |              | Add new section<br>AS 08.07.030      | <p><b><u>Scope of practice</u></b></p> <p>a) Athletic trainer may practice only under the supervision of person licensed to practice medicine or osteopathy (AS 08.64)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Supervision" means physician authorizes procedure and procedure is performed by athletic trainer according to physician's diagnosis and treatment plan</li> </ol> <p>b) Athletic trainer must refer an athlete to an appropriate licensed health care professional if the athletic trainer determines that or treatment symptoms requires treatment outside the scope of the practice of the athletic trainer</p> <p>c) The practice of athletic trainers include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Treatment of athlete for injury or illness prevention</li> <li>2. Clinical evaluation and assessment of an athlete for injury sustained or aggravated during a sport of sport related exercise or activity</li> <li>3. Immediate care or treatment for injury sustained or aggravated during a sport of sport related exercise or activity</li> <li>4. Rehabilitation and reconditioning for injury sustained or aggravated during a sport of sport related exercise or activity</li> </ol> <p>d) "health care professional" means a physician, nurse, and physician assistant. It does not include a practitioner of religious healing.</p> |
|   |              | Add new section<br>AS 08.07.040      | <p><b><u>Regulations</u></b></p> <p>a) DCEED will consult with Board of Certification, INC or another nationally recognized professional association approved by the department to adopt regulations to include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Minimum standards for licensure</li> <li>2. Minimum standards of care for practice</li> <li>3. Continuing education requirements</li> </ol>  |
|   |              | Add new section<br>AS 08.07.040      | <p><b><u>Definitions</u></b></p> <p>"athlete"</p> <p>"athletic trainer"</p> <p>"athletic training"</p>  |
| 3 | AS 09.65.300 | Amends section<br>AS 09.65.300(c)(1) | Inserts athletic trainer to the list of "health care provider"  |

|   |                |                                  |  |
|---|----------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 4 | AS 47.17.290   | Amends section AS 47.17.290 (13) | Inserts athletic trainer to the list of "practitioner of the healing arts" licensed under AS 08.11, AS 08.55, AS 08.63   |
| 5 | Uncodified Law | Add new section                  | <p><b><u>Applicability</u></b></p> <p>a) The license requirement in AS 08.07.010 applies to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a person who has never practiced athletic training</li> <li>2. Has practiced in state but doesn't meet the requirements</li> </ol> <p>b) Does not apply for 2 years after the effective date to person that has practiced as an athletic training in state 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the effective date and is certified by the Board of Certification, INC and is practicing within the scope of the certification.</p> |

# Therapy and Rehabilitation

## Includes:

- Athletic trainer
- Occupational therapist
- Occupational therapy assistant
- Physical therapist
- Physical therapist assistant
- Recreational therapist

## Athletic Trainer

Athletic training is practiced by athletic trainers (ATs), health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to optimize activity and participation of patients and clients. Athletic training encompasses the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute, and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations, and disabilities.



### History

Work on establishing standards for athletic training educational programs was initiated in 1959 by the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA), with the first two programs approved in 1969. By 1979, there were 23 undergraduate programs and two graduate programs approved by NATA. By 1997, NATA had approved 87 entry-level and 13 graduate athletic training educational programs.

The Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC) was incorporated in 1989 from the NATA to provide a certification program for entry-level Athletic Trainers (ATs). The BOC establishes and regularly reviews both the standards for the practice of athletic training and the continuing education requirements for BOC Certified ATs. The BOC has the only accredited certification program for ATs in the US. In 1997, the BOC office was moved from Raleigh, North Carolina to Omaha, Nebraska.

In 1989, NATA applied to the AMA Council on Medical Education (CME) for recognition of athletic training as an allied health occupation; recognition was granted in 1990. Also in 1990, an initial meeting was conducted to develop the Standards (Essentials) for accreditation of educational programs for athletic trainers; standards were subsequently adopted in 1991.

Following the separation of the AMA from the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA), the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) was formed, with the Joint Review Committee for Athletic Training functioning as a Commission on Accreditation of that group. On July 1, 2006, the JRC-AT separated from CAAHEP and became the independent accreditor CAATE (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education). At this time, all CAAHEP-accredited athletic training education programs became CAATE-accredited.



### Career Description

Past role delineation studies/practice analyses have concluded that the role of an athletic trainer includes, but is not limited to:

- Injury/illness prevention and wellness protection, which includes:

- Minimize risk of injury and illness of individuals and groups impacted by or involved in a specific activity through awareness, education, and intervention.
- Interpret individual and group pre-participation and other relevant screening information (e.g., verbal, observed, written) in accordance with accepted and applicable guidelines to minimize the risk of injury and illness.
- Identify and educate individual(s) and groups through appropriate communication methods (e.g., verbal, written) about the appropriate use of personal protective equipment (e.g., clothing, shoes, protective gear, and braces) by following accepted procedures and guidelines.
- Maintain physical activity, clinical treatment, and rehabilitation areas by complying with regulatory standards to minimize the risk of injury and illness.
- Monitor environmental conditions (e.g., weather, surfaces, client work-setting) using appropriate methods and guidelines to facilitate individual and group safety.
- Maintain or improve physical conditioning for the individual or group by designing and implementing programs (e.g., strength, flexibility, CV fitness) to minimize the risk of injury and illness.
- Promote healthy lifestyle behaviors using appropriate education and communication strategies to enhance wellness and minimize the risk of injury and illness.

Clinical evaluation and diagnosis, which includes:

- Obtain an individual's history through observation, interview, and/or review of relevant records to assess injury, illness, or health-related condition.
- Utilize appropriate visual and palpation techniques to determine the type and extent of the injury, illness, or health-related condition
- Utilize appropriate tests (e.g., ROM, special tests, neurological tests) to determine the type and extent of the injury, illness, or health-related condition.
- Formulate a clinical diagnosis by interpreting the signs, symptoms, and predisposing factors of the injury, illness, or health-related condition to determine the appropriate course of action.
- Educate the appropriate individual(s) about the clinical evaluation by communicating information about the injury, illness, or health-related condition to encourage compliance with recommended care.

Immediate and Emergency care, which includes:

- Coordinate care of individual(s) through appropriate communication (e.g., verbal, written, demonstrative) of assessment findings to pertinent individual(s).

- Apply appropriate immediate and emergency care procedures to prevent the exacerbation of health-related conditions to reduce the risk factors for morbidity and mortality.
- Implement appropriate referral strategies, while stabilizing and/or preventing exacerbation of the condition(s), to facilitate the timely transfer of care for health-related conditions beyond the scope of practice of the Athletic Trainer.
- Demonstrate how to implement and direct immediate care strategies (e.g., first aid, Emergency Action Plan) using established communication and administrative practices to provide effective care.

Treatment, and rehabilitation, which includes:

- Administer therapeutic and conditioning exercise(s) using appropriate techniques and procedures to aid recovery and restoration of function.
- Administer therapeutic modalities (e.g., electromagnetic, manual, mechanical) using appropriate techniques and procedures based on the individual's phase of recovery to restore functioning.
- Apply braces, splints, or other assistive devices according to appropriate practices in order to facilitate injury protection to achieve optimal functioning for the individual.
- Administer treatment for injury, illness, and/or health-related conditions using appropriate methods to facilitate injury protection, recovery, and/or optimal functioning for individual(s).
- Reassess the status of injuries, illnesses, and/or health-related conditions using appropriate techniques and documentation strategies to determine appropriate treatment, rehabilitation, and/or reconditioning and to evaluate readiness to return to a desired level of activity.
- Provide guidance and/or referral to specialist for individual(s) and groups through appropriate communication strategies (e.g., oral and education materials) to restore an individual(s) optimal functioning.

Organization and professional health and well-being, which includes:

- Apply basic internal business functions (e.g., business planning, financial operations, staffing) to support individual and organizational growth and development.
- Apply basic external business functions (e.g., marketing and public relations) to support organizational sustainability, growth, and development.
- Maintain records and documentation that comply with organizational, association, and regulatory standards to provide quality of care and to enable internal surveillance for program validation and evidence-based interventions.
- Demonstrate appropriate planning for coordination of resources (e.g., personnel, equipment, liability, scope of service) in event medical management and emergency action plans.
- Demonstrate an understanding of statutory and regulatory provisions and professional standards of the practice of Athletic Training in order to provide for the safety and welfare of individual(s) and groups
- Develop a support/referral process for interventions to address unhealthy lifestyle behaviors.

Source: [http://www.bocac.org/images/stories/resources/rdpa6\\_content\\_outline.pdf](http://www.bocac.org/images/stories/resources/rdpa6_content_outline.pdf)



### Employment Characteristics

Athletic trainers typically provide their services in one or more of the following settings: secondary schools, colleges and universities, professional athletic organizations, physician offices, hospital-based clinics, private sports

medicine, rehabilitation and therapy clinics, industrial/occupational commercial facilities, military, and performing arts.



### Salary

Entry-level salaries in 2008 averaged \$35,000. The average overall salary is \$45,000, with the upper ranges from \$55,000 to \$85,000.

Data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics ([www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes299091.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes299091.htm)) from May 2009 show that wages at the 10th percentile are \$26,170, the 50th percentile (median) at \$42,400, and the 90th percentile at \$65,970.

For more information, go to [www.ama-assn.org/go/hpsalary](http://www.ama-assn.org/go/hpsalary).



### Employment Outlook

Employment of athletic trainers is projected by the BLS to grow 30% from 2010 to 2020, much faster than the average for all occupations, because of their role in preventing injuries and reducing healthcare costs. Job growth will be concentrated in the healthcare industry, including hospitals and offices of health practitioners.



### Educational Programs

**Length.** Baccalaureate degree programs require 4 years of study. Postbaccalaureate programs are generally 2 years.

**Prerequisites.** Applicants for the 4-year baccalaureate degree programs must have a high school diploma or equivalent and meet institutional entrance requirements. Applicants for post-baccalaureate programs should have a baccalaureate degree that includes appropriate course work and clinical experience, as specified by the institution.

**Curriculum.** The professional curriculum includes formal instruction in:

- Risk management and injury/illness prevention
- Pathology of injury/illness
- Clinical examination and diagnosis
- Acute care of injuries and illnesses
- General medical conditions and disabilities
- Therapeutic modalities
- Therapeutic exercise
- Conditioning and rehabilitative exercise and therapy
- Health care administration
- Psychosocial intervention and referral
- Medical ethics and legal issues
- Pharmacology
- Professional responsibilities

The didactic curriculum is augmented by a series of structured laboratory and clinical experiences.



### Licensure, Registration, Certification

Almost all states require that athletic trainers hold the ATC® (Athletic Trainer, Certified) credential, which is issued by the Board of Certification, Inc. (BOC). The ATC credential is supported by three pillars: the BOC certification examination, BOC Standards of Practice and Disciplinary Process, and continuing competence requirements. The computer-based examination verifies that the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for competent performance as an athletic trainer have been met.

At the time of publication, 48 states have some form of athletic training regulation, of which 47 states require the BOC examination in order to obtain regulation. It is important to recognize, however, that passing the BOC examination is only a precursor to athletic training practice. Compliance with state regulatory requirements is

mandatory and the only avenue to legal athletic training practice. For specific details regarding state regulation, contact the state regulatory agency.



### **Inquiries**

#### **Careers**

National Athletic Trainers' Association, Inc  
2952 Stemmons Freeway, Suite 200

Dallas, TX 75247  
(214) 637-6282  
(800) TRY-NATA  
(214) 637-2206 Fax  
[www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org)

#### **Certification**

Board of Certification, Inc (BOC)  
BOC Administrative Offices  
1415 Haney Street, Suite 200  
Omaha, NE 68102  
(402) 559-0091  
(402) 561-0598 Fax  
[www.bocatc.org](http://www.bocatc.org)

### **Program Accreditation**

Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education  
(CAATE)

2201 Double Creek Drive, Suite 5006  
Round Rock, TX 78664  
(512) 733-9700  
(512) 733-9701 Fax

Email: [sheila@caate.net](mailto:sheila@caate.net) or [caateinfo@caate.net](mailto:caateinfo@caate.net)  
[www.caate.net](http://www.caate.net)

*Note:* Adapted in part from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, US Department of Labor, *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, Athletic Trainers, at [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos294.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos294.htm).



**The FACTS about Athletic Trainers,  
from the National Athletic Trainers' Association, [www.NATA.org](http://www.NATA.org)**

*This document corrects misinformation about Athletic Trainers (ATs). It is provided to those interested in the facts about the athletic training profession in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Readers should note that athletic trainers work under the direction of physicians. ATs are clinically and academically qualified to medically treat patients and clients of all ages in any physical setting. Public safety, injury and illness prevention, and early intervention are keystones to the practice of athletic training.*

**1. FACT: Athletic trainers know and practice health care at the highest professional, ethical and quality standards in order to protect the public.**

Athletic training is practiced by athletic trainers, health care professionals who collaborate with physicians to optimize activity and participation of patients and clients. Athletic training encompasses the prevention, diagnosis, and intervention of emergency, acute, and chronic medical conditions involving impairment, functional limitations, and disabilities. Members of the NATA must agree to abide by the Association's Code of Ethics. The Board of Certification Inc. requires that all credential holders abide by the Standards of Practice.

**2. FACT: Athletic trainers are regulated and licensed health care workers.**

While practice act oversight varies by state, athletic trainers practice under state statutes recognizing them as qualified health care professionals similar to physical therapists, occupational therapists and other health care professionals. Athletic training licensure/regulation exists in 46 states, with aggressive efforts underway to pursue licensure in the remaining states and to update outdated licensure. Athletic trainers practice under the direction of physicians.

**3. FACT: More than 50 percent of athletic trainers work outside of school athletic settings; they provide services to people of all ages.**

Athletic trainers work in physician offices as physician extenders. They also work in rural and urban hospitals, hospital emergency rooms, urgent and ambulatory care centers, military hospitals, physical therapy clinics, secondary schools, colleges/universities, youth leagues, commercial settings and professional sports teams. They are in great demand for their versatile health and wellness services and injury and illness prevention skills. The skills of ATs have been sought and valued by sports medicine specialists and other physicians for more than 60 years. As the U.S. continues its focus on reducing the effects of obesity and other chronic diseases, it is important that people have access to health care professionals who can support lifelong, safe physical activity. ATs are an important part of the health care workforce, especially as the demand for workers is projected to greatly increase over the next decade.

**4. FACT: ATs improve patient functional and physical outcomes.**

Results from a nationwide Medical Outcomes Survey demonstrate that care provided by ATs effects a significant change in all outcome variables measured, with the greatest change in functional outcomes and physical outcomes. The investigation indicates that care provided by ATs generates a positive change in health-related quality of life patient outcomes. (Ref: Albohm MJ, Wilkerson GB. An outcomes assessment of care provided by certified athletic trainers. *Journal of Rehabilitation Outcomes Measure* 1999; 3 (3):51-56.)

**5. FACT: ATs specialize in patient education to prevent injury and re-injury and reduce rehabilitative and other health care costs.**

Recent studies, reports, outcomes measurement surveys, total joint replacement studies and many other case studies demonstrate how the services of ATs save money for employers and improve quality of life for patients. For each \$1 invested in preventive care, employers gained up to a \$7 return on investment according to one NATA survey. The use of athletic trainers supports a quality-driven health care economy that increases competition in order to reduce patient and disease costs. With proper rehabilitation and evaluation, athletic trainers prevent re-injury. The patient's standard of care is enhanced, not sacrificed, with ATs.

**6. FACT: ATs provide the same or better outcomes in clinical settings as other providers.**

Results of a comparative analysis of care provided by athletic trainers and physical therapists in a clinical setting indicated ATs provide the same levels of outcomes, value and patient satisfaction as physical therapists in a clinical setting (Ref: Reimbursement of Athletic Training by Albohm, MJ; Campbell, Konin, pp. 25). Patient satisfaction ratings are more than 96 percent when treatment is provided by ATs. ATs are generally an alternative – not an additional – provider of physical medicine therapies. ATs are an “or” not an “and”; therefore, costs for providing therapy are *not* increased with the use of athletic training services.

**7. FACT: ATs work in rural and medically underserved areas and with people of all ages.**

ATs are accustomed to working in urgent care environments that have challenging – sometimes even adverse – work and environmental conditions. The athletic training tradition and hands-on clinical and academic education combine to create health care professionals who are flexible and inventive – ideal managers of patient care and health care delivery.

**8. FACT: Athletic trainers are well-known, recognized, qualified health care professionals.**

ATs are highly qualified, multi-skilled health care professionals and have been part of the American Medical Association's Health Professions Career and Education Directory for more than a decade. Athletic trainers are assigned National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers like all other health care professionals. The taxonomy code for athletic trainers is 2255A2300X. Additionally, the American Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Pediatrics and American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine – among others – are all strong clinical and academic supporters of athletic trainers.

**9. FACT: Athletic trainers have designated CPT/UB Codes.**

The American Medical Association (AMA) granted Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) codes for athletic training evaluation and re-evaluation (97005, 97006) in 2000. The codes became effective in 2002. These codes are part of the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation CPT codes. In addition, the American Hospital Association established Uniform Billing (UB) codes – or revenue codes – for athletic training in 1999, effective in 2000.

**10. FACT: CPT and UB codes are not provider specific.**

The AMA states that the term “provider,” as found in the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation section of the CPT code, is a generic term used to define the individual performing the service described by the code. According to the AMA, the term “therapist” is not intended to denote any specific practice of specialty field. Physical therapists and/or any other type of therapists are not exclusive providers of general physical medicine examinations, evaluations and interventions. Similar to the athletic training evaluation and re-evaluation codes, other therapists have their own evaluation codes.

**11. FACT: Athletic trainers have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Athletic trainers are health care professionals similar to physical, occupational, speech language and other therapists.**

All certified and/or licensed athletic trainers **must have a bachelor's or master's degree** from an accredited college or university in order to practice athletic training. Baccalaureate and graduate degrees are in athletic training or are complementary degrees with an athletic training major. All programs include established academic curricula. Academic programs are accredited through an independent process by the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training

Education (CAATE). Graduation from a CAATE-accredited program is required for eligibility to take the Board of Certification examination.

**12. FACT: The following educational content standards are required for athletic training degree programs. Students must receive formal instruction in the following subject matter:**

**Basic and Applied Sciences:**

- Human anatomy
- Human physiology
- Biology
- Statistics and research design
- Exercise physiology

- Kinesiology/biomechanics
- Chemistry \*
- Physics \*

\* Recommended but not required by some ATEPs

**Professional Content:**

- Risk management and injury prevention
- Pathology of injuries and illnesses
- Orthopedic clinical examination and diagnosis
- Medical conditions and disabilities
- Acute care of injuries and illnesses
- Therapeutic modalities

- Conditioning, rehabilitative exercise and referral
- Pharmacology
- Psychosocial intervention and referral
- Nutritional aspects of injuries and illnesses
- Health care administration

**13. FACT: Nearly 70 percent of athletic trainers have a master's or doctoral degree.**

Athletic trainers are highly educated. Nearly 70 percent of ATC credential holders have a master's degree or higher advanced degree. Reflective of the broad base of skills valued by the athletic training profession, these master's degrees may be in athletic training (clinical), wellness and health promotion, education, exercise physiology, counseling or health care administration. This great majority of practitioners who hold advance degrees are comparable to other health care professionals.

**14. FACT: An independent national board certifies athletic trainers.**

The independent Board of Certification Inc. (BOC) nationally certifies athletic trainers. Athletic trainers must pass an examination and hold an entry-level bachelor's or master's degree to become an athletic trainer. To retain certification, credential holders must obtain 75 hours of medically related continuing education credits every three years and adhere to Standards of Professional Practice. The BOC is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.

**15. FACT: The National Athletic Trainers' Association represents more than 30,000 members.**

The National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA), founded in 1950, represents more than 30,000 members of the international profession. Of the total membership, 26,000 are ATs and the remainder are athletic training students. This represents about 85 percent of all athletic trainers practicing in the United States. NATA accurately claims the distinction of representing the great majority of athletic training professionals.

## ***Testimonials from Employers and Friends of Athletic Trainers***

### **Physicians, Hospitals and Clinics**

“Athletic trainers are a committed, essential component to physicians delivering the highest standard of team medical care to the patients of the Andrews Institute. They know how to relate to the patient so his or her recovery is as quick as safely allowable, whether that person is a professional or youth athlete or just an average mom or dad.”

-- James Andrews, MD, Andrews Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center, Birmingham, Ala.

“Athletic trainers help enhance a physician’s communication with patients by serving as another source of expert information that patients can absorb. Athletic trainers are a key part of our sports medicine service delivery model.”

-- John Xerogeanes, MD, Chief of Sports Medicine, Emory Orthopedics and Spine Center, Atlanta, Ga.

“I realized early on in my career that ATs are the only health care professionals who devote their entire education and professional lives to taking care of active people. My patients experience excellent outcomes as a result of therapy provided by ATs. My patients love working with them. ATs are a value added service to my practice. I could not do without them.”

-- Thomas D. Kohl, MD, medical director, family practice physician; Director, Sports Medicine, Comprehensive Athletic Treatment Center, Wyomissing, Pa.

### **Legislators and Regulators**

“As a state legislator concerned with health policy, affordable and accessible health care for all people is my primary concern. We must look for innovative solutions to providing health care because of the increasing shortages of nurses and other health care workers. One of the best ways to deliver health care services in the community is to better utilize certified athletic trainers. Athletic trainers are multi-skilled health care professionals who provide a unique combination of injury and illness treatment and rehabilitation with a substantial dose of injury prevention and general wellness.”

-- Former Representative Jerry Krummel, Oregon House of Representatives, District 26

### **Occupational and Industrial Setting**

“Our company has had a certified athletic trainer on site since 2000 and since that time we have recognized the tremendous upside in the tangible and intangible benefits of this addition, including a savings of more than \$245,000 in just 2002 alone in health care-related expenditures. We have also experienced a decrease of 67 percent for health care costs related to the low back. Additionally, our days away from work have decreased by 60 percent in the last three years. In the industrial setting, these results can be best accomplished by an individual with the medical knowledge and training of an athletic trainer. We wouldn’t have it any other way and will continue this program for the long term.”

-- James E. Marotz, DO, corporate medical director at Appleton Papers, Appleton, Wis.

1014 rev. 03/09

FACTS about Athletic Trainers  
and the National Athletic Trainers’ Association  
info @nata.org  
V 214.637.6282 • F 214.637.2206

National Athletic Trainers’ Association  
2952 Stemmons Frwy., Suite 200  
Dallas, Texas 75247 USA  
[www.NATA.org](http://www.NATA.org)



**ALASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

4048 Laurel Street Suite 203 Anchorage, AK 99508 • PHONE: 907-563-3723 • FAX: 907-561-0720

February 21, 2014

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am Gary Matthews, Executive Director of Alaska School Activities Association (ASAA), and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

As an administrator, I am concerned for the health and safety of our young athletes throughout the state. With high school athletes suffering from 2 million injuries, 500,000 doctor visits, and 30,000 hospitalizations each year and the fact that there have been more than 372 deaths of young athletes in the last four years throughout the country, we must do a better job of providing them with a safe environment. I believe that the passage of this bill will save lives.

Currently in Alaska, *anyone* can call themselves an athletic trainer without having the proper qualifications. There are countless unqualified individuals across the state posing as athletic trainers and making medical decisions every day. The number of young athletes sustaining severe or multiple injuries continues to increase every year. There is no better time than *now* to guarantee that these young athletes have properly trained and educated individuals providing them medical care and responding to emergencies on the sidelines.

I have had the privilege of working with a number of certified athletic trainers during my career. The knowledge that I have a highly educated and trained individual on staff that will provide appropriate on-site medical care in emergency and non-emergency cases to my athletes is invaluable.

Passage of this bill is the only way for administrators, parents and coaches to know that the individual responding to emergency situations and providing medical care to young athletes is qualified to do so.

This bill will save lives at no cost to the state, school district or hard working taxpayers. For the safety and welfare of our athletes and children, I urge you to vote yes on **HB 160**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Matthews', is written over a horizontal line.

Gary Matthews  
ASAA  
4048 Laurel Street, Suite 203  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
907-563-3823 (work) 907-441-4298 (cell)

**2/21/2014**

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau. AK 99801

**RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)**

Dear Representative Olson,

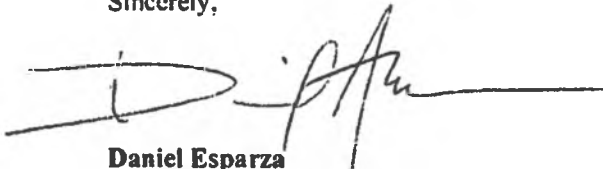
I am the **Co-Head Football** coach at **Bartlett High School**, and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my **11** years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

I have dedicated my career to educating young athletes. I spend my time encouraging them not only in the development of their athletic skill, but also preparing them with life skills beyond what they will need in the sports arena. Every athlete I coach will eventually end their athletic career and focus on other aspects of their life. No coach ever wants to see an athlete's life impeded by an injury, or worse, ended by an incident on the field. By providing licensure to athletic trainers we will help prevent the death of young athletes by ensuring they are receiving appropriate on-site medical care in instances of emergency and non-emergency cases.

I urge you to vote **YES on HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a lifetime to come.

Sincerely,



**Daniel Esparza**  
1101 Golden Bear Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99504



Dennis Sorenson  
3170 Marathon Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99515

February 21, 2013

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am the **Head Hockey coach at Dimond High School** and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my 30 years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

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I urge you to vote **YES** on **HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a lifetime to come.

Sincerely,

Dennis Sorenson

2/21/2014

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

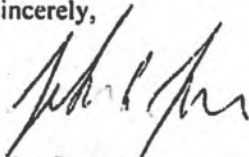
I am the Co-Head Football coach at **Bartlett High School**, and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my **30** years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

I have dedicated my career to educating young athletes. I spend my time encouraging them not only in the development of their athletic skill, but also preparing them with life skills beyond what they will need in the sports arena. Every athlete I coach will eventually end their athletic career and focus on other aspects of their life. No coach ever wants to see an athlete's life impeded by an injury, or worse, ended by an incident on the field. By providing licensure to athletic trainers we will help prevent the death of young athletes by ensuring they are receiving appropriate on-site medical care in instances of emergency and non-emergency cases.

I urge you to vote **YES** on **HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a lifetime to come.

Sincerely,



**John Jessen**  
1101 Golden Bear Dr.  
Anchorage, AK 99504



Mr. John Snead MED  
2909 W. 88<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

2/21/14

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am the Athletic Director at A.J. Dimond High School and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

As an administrator, I am concerned for the health and safety of our young athletes throughout the state. With high school athletes suffering from 2 million injuries, 500,000 doctor visits, and 30,000 hospitalizations each year and the fact that there have been more than 372 deaths of young athletes in the last four years throughout the country, we must do a better job of providing them with a safe environment. I believe that the passage of this bill will save lives.

Currently in Alaska, *anyone* can call themselves an athletic trainer without having the proper qualifications. There are countless unqualified individuals across the state posing as athletic trainers and making medical decisions every day. The number of young athletes sustaining severe or multiple injuries continues to increase every year. There is no better time than *now* to guarantee that these young athletes have properly trained and educated individuals providing them medical care and responding to emergencies on the sidelines.

I have had the privilege of working with a number of certified athletic trainers during my career. The knowledge that I have a highly educated and trained individual on staff that will provide appropriate on-site medical care in emergency and non-emergency cases to my athletes is invaluable.

Passage of this bill is the only way for administrators, parents and coaches to know that the individual responding to emergency situations and providing medical care to young athletes is qualified to do so.

This bill will save lives at **no cost to the state, school district or hard working taxpayers**. For the safety and welfare of our athletes and children, I urge you to vote yes on **HB 160**.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. Navarre  
Dimond High Teacher/Coach  
3344 Monticello Ct.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

February 20, 2014

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am the **Flag Football and Head Track** coach at **Dimond High School**, and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my **21** years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

I have dedicated my career to educating young athletes. I spend my time encouraging them not only in the development of their athletic skill, but also preparing them with life skills beyond what they will need in the sports arena. Every athlete I coach will eventually end their athletic career and focus on other aspects of their life. No coach ever wants to see an athlete's life impeded by an injury, or worse, ended by an incident on the field. By providing licensure to athletic trainers we will help prevent the death of young athletes by ensuring they are receiving appropriate on-site medical care in instances of emergency and non-emergency cases.

I urge you to vote **YES** on **HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a lifetime to come.

Sincerely,

  
Kathleen A. Navarre

**February 21, 2014**

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am the **Head Volleyball** coach at **West Anchorage HS**, and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my 30 years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

I have dedicated my career to educating young athletes. I spend my time encouraging them not only in the development of their athletic skill, but also preparing them with life skills beyond what they will need in the sports arena. Every athlete I coach will eventually end their athletic career and focus on other aspects of their life. No coach ever wants to see an athlete's life impeded by an injury, or worse, ended by an incident on the field. By providing licensure to athletic trainers we will help prevent the death of young athletes by ensuring they are receiving appropriate on-site medical care in instances of emergency and non-emergency cases.

I urge you to vote **YES** on **HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a lifetime to come.

Sincerely,



Michael L Vincent  
12921 Jacks Circle  
Anchorage, AK 99516

2-21-2014

Representative Kurt Olson  
Committee Chair  
Labor and Commerce  
State Capitol Rm 24  
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SUPPORT FOR HB 160 (THOMPSON)

Dear Representative Olson,

I am the Assistant Wrestling coach at Bartlett High School, and I am writing to urge you to vote yes on **HB 160 (THOMPSON)**. The "Act relating to the licensing and regulation of athletic trainers" would, at no cost to the state, school district or taxpayers, provide for the licensure and regulation of athletic trainers.

In my 10 years as a coach, I have worked with a number of certified athletic trainers. I have found them to be highly educated medical professionals who are invaluable to the everyday function of my athletes and my team. I rely on my athletic trainer to prevent, recognize and respond to injuries or illnesses related to physical activity. At times when my team travels to other schools for games, I must rely on the hosting school's athletic trainer to provide medical care for my athletes. This is usually an individual whom I am not familiar with and unfortunately, without licensure, I have no way of knowing whether this person, calling themselves an athletic trainer, is educated or qualified to provide medical care.

I have dedicated my career to educating young athletes. I spend my time encouraging them not only in the development of their athletic skill, but also preparing them with life skills beyond what they will need in the sports arena. Every athlete I coach will eventually end their athletic career and focus on other aspects of their life. No coach ever wants to see an athlete's life impeded by an injury, or worse, ended by an incident on the field. By providing licensure to athletic trainers we will help prevent the death of young athletes by ensuring they are receiving appropriate on-site medical care in instances of emergency and non-emergency cases.

I urge you to vote **YES** on **HB 160** because by choosing to protect these young athletes now, we can protect them for a life time to come.

Sincerely,



Ryan Theuer  
4321 Gannett Circle  
Anchorage, AK, 99504

## Daniel George

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**From:** Rebecca McKee <rmckee@peakcenterak.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 09, 2014 5:59 PM  
**To:** Rep. Bill Stoltze  
**Subject:** HB 160

**Importance:** High

Representative Stoltze –

Please enter my concerns about HB 160 into the record of the Finance Committee hearing.

I am a triathlon, run, swim, bike coach, as well as work with general fitness clients in Anchorage. I own a small business called Peak Center Alaska, LLC. It has come to my attention that there is a bill under consideration that will greatly impact my small business, my ability to provide quality coaching, as well as the businesses of many Personal Trainers and Coaches.

It is my understanding that Bill HB 160 prohibits a Personal Trainer or Coach in engaging in activities that fall within the definition of Athletic Trainer, even if those activities are within the scope of the certification that the Personal Trainer or Coach has. I am not a certified Athletic Trainer, my number one role to my clients is to provide a safe program designed around injury prevention, assessing injuries, caring for injuries, making appropriate recommendations for further medical treatment if necessary and working with local providers to rehabilitate injuries. The fundamental basis of my business is about recovery and injury prevention.

This Bill is not only confusing, but is targeting a segment of the Athletic Community that prides itself on PREVENTION of injury rather than dealing with injury after the fact. I work closely with MANY Physical Therapist, Chiropractors, Massage Therapist, Doctors, Natural Paths, Nutritionist, Kinesiologist, etc. All of these individuals are in my “tool bag” of resources to help my clients maintain optimal health and performance fitness.

I received a copy of the legal opinion of the bill from Hilary Martin, Legislative Counsel, It appears that Bill HB 160 would put me in violation of the bill if it passed as it is currently written. Many of the skills that I provide to my clients, which have been certified, but not as an Athletic Trainer, are considered within the “scope” of the defined Athletic Trainer in this bill.

It is confusing to me why we are being targeted and concerns me that something like this can pass without the general public being aware or having an opportunity to learn about the issues and comment on it. It is very important that this bill not pass and that the wording be reconsidered. There are a lot of small businesses that will be effected by this that are NOT being considered by this committee.

Rebecca McKee

**Rebecca McKee, Coach/Owner**

**Peak Center Alaska, LLC**

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# Athletic Trainers – Not “Trainers”

These days people are more active, more interested, more educated than ever before. We're trained in fitness, sports, computer applications – even parenting. You can't accurately describe anyone using simply the word “trainer.”

**Here are some differences between an athletic trainer and a personal trainer.**



## ATHLETIC TRAINER

An athletic trainer is an expert at recognizing, treating and preventing musculoskeletal injuries. ATs meet qualifications set by the Board of Certification, Inc., and adhere to the requirements of a state licensing board. ATs practice under the direction of a physician and are members of a health care profession recognized by the American Medical Association.

### Requirements:

- Must obtain, at minimum, a bachelor's degree in athletic training
- Must pass a comprehensive exam to earn the ATC credential
- Must keep their knowledge and skills current by participating in continuing education
- Must adhere to standards of professional practice set by one national certifying agency and to a national code of ethics

### Daily Duties:

- Provide physical medicine and rehabilitation services
- Prevent, diagnose, treat and rehabilitate injuries (acute and chronic)
- Coordinate care with physicians and other health care professionals
- Work in schools, colleges, professional sports, clinics, hospitals, corporations, industry, military, performing arts



## PERSONAL TRAINER

A personal trainer develops, monitors and changes an individual's specific exercise program in a fitness or sports setting; some personal trainers also make nutrition recommendations. Personal trainers can earn credentials through a number of agencies and can work as fitness trainers without formal instruction or certification.



### Requirements:

- May or may not have higher education in health sciences
- May or may not be required to obtain certification or state licensing
- May or may not participate in continuing education
- May become certified by any one of numerous organizations that set varying education and practice requirements

### Daily Duties:

- Assess fitness needs and design appropriate exercise regimens
- Work with clients to achieve fitness goals
- Help educate the public on the importance of physical activity
- Work in health clubs, wellness centers and other locations where fitness activities take place



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***Know who's taking care of you and your athletes! Be sure you're getting the right health care from the right health care professional for the right condition.***

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### About the National Athletic Trainers' Association:

Athletic trainers are health care professionals who specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illnesses. The National Athletic Trainers' Association represents and supports 32,000 members of the athletic training profession. NATA advocates for equal access to athletic trainers for patients and clients of all ages. NATA members adhere to a code of ethics. For more visit [www.nata.org](http://www.nata.org).

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# LEGAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF LEGAL AND RESEARCH SERVICES  
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS AGENCY  
STATE OF ALASKA

(907) 465-3867 or 465-2450  
FAX (907) 465-2029  
Mail Stop 3101

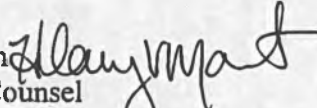
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182  
Deliveries to: 129 6th St., Rm. 329

## MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Athletic Trainers (HB 160; Work Order No. 28-LS0423\O)

**TO:** Representative Steve Thompson  
Attn: Brodie Anderson

**FROM:** Hilary Martin   
Legislative Counsel

You have asked a number of questions related to HB 160, which licenses athletic trainers. You have specifically asked questions related to personal trainers and coaches.

1) How does the language in AS 08.07.010(b), in sec. 2 of the bill, relate to physical trainers and coaches?

This language allows a person who is licensed under another chapter of Title 08 to continue that practice within the scope of that licensure, even if the person is performing functions defined as athletic training. This exemption does not apply to personal trainers or coaches, because they are not licensed under Title 08.

2) Would a coach who provides immediate care to an injured athlete during an event or training fall within the definition of "athletic training"? If a physical trainer or coach works with clients to prevent injuries, rehabilitate injuries, assess injuries, care for injuries, and make recommendations for medical treatment, is this considered "athletic training"?

AS 08.07.010, added by sec. 2 of HB 160, provides that a person may not practice or offer to practice athletic training without a license. "Athletic training" is defined in AS 08.07.090 as:

[T]he treatment of an athlete under the direction of a physician licensed under AS 08.64 to manage risk of injury and prevent injury, evaluate clinically, assess, and treat an athlete's injury or illness, and rehabilitate and recondition that athlete.

"Athlete" is defined as:

[A]n individual who participates in an organized sport or sport-related exercise or activity, including interscholastic, intercollegiate, intramural, semiprofessional, and professional sport activities.

Representative Steve Thompson

April 9, 2014

Page 2

If a personal trainer or coach is engaging in activities that fit the definition of "athletic training," then those actions would be prohibited under the bill. Note, however, that the definition of athletic training requires that the athletic trainer work under the direction of a physician licensed under AS 08.64. If the personal trainer or coach is not working under the direction of a physician, then the activities would not appear to be prohibited. A personal trainer or coach would still be prevented from using the title of athletic trainer under the bill.

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

HVM:lem

14-178.lem

Good morning, Brodie. I have reviewed HB 160 in response to your questions, below, with our agency attorney. Please see our interpretation of the proposed legislation in blue.

Based on the current language in HB 160 28-LS0423\O

- 1) Please explain pg. 2 Line 5-8 subsection (b) and the relation to professions not currently licensed in this Title but perform functions that are defined as athletic training and are in the scope of the professional duties, example Physical Trainers, Coaches. AS 08.07.010(b) would allow professionally licensed persons such as doctors, nurses, and physical therapists to perform the duties of an athletic trainer if those duties fall within their current licensed scope of practice. The person may not use the title "athletic trainer" unless licensed under this chapter. This subsection does not pertain to unlicensed persons, such as coaches.
- 2) Does the current language allow for the exclusion of paid and unpaid volunteer "coaches" (that are not using the title Athletic Trainer) from being considered athletic trainers. In particular, immediate care if an athlete gets injured during an event or training and a coach renders aid, from this definition are doing the "practice of an athletic trainer" in a sense. AS 08.07.030 defines the scope of practice of an athletic trainer, and AS 08.07.090 also offers definitions. If a person is practicing as an athletic trainer under the supervision of a doctor, they must become licensed. If they are rendering aid without that formal medical supervision, and they are not using the title "athletic trainer," then they will not require a license. Once one of those two thresholds is met, a license will be required by law.
- 3) If a Physical Trainer, Coach requires them to work with clients in preventing injuries, rehabilitating injuries, assessing injuries and caring for injuries and making appropriate recommendations for further medical treatment will they be considered an "Athletic Trainer" Only if they meet the two thresholds stated above: working under medical supervision or using the title "athletic trainer."

I am happy to address these questions in hearing. If you receive guidance from your attorney that is in conflict with our interpretation, please let me know so I can review our assessment.

Sincerely,

*Sara Chambers*  
Director

Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Alaska Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

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P.O. Box 110806  
333 Willoughby Avenue, Juneau, AK 99801-0806  
907/465-2538  
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[sara.chambers@alaska.gov](mailto:sara.chambers@alaska.gov)  
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