



September 9, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 796 (Weber) – Athletic trainers. – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom,

California State University Employees Union (CSUEU), representing 35,000 non-faculty staff and student assistants across 23 State University campuses, supports AB 796, which will prohibit a person from practicing as an athletic trainer or using certain titles or terms without meeting prescribed requirements, including being certified by the Board of Certification for the Athletic Trainer. **We respectfully request your signature on this bill when it comes before you.**

Athletic trainers are allied health care professionals that specialize in the prevention, assessment and intervention of emergency, acute and chronic medical conditions, like concussions, heat illness and sudden cardiac arrest. Having certified, licensed athletic trainers available in sports environments can demonstrably help in those injury situations to improve outcomes and, more importantly, avoid injuries to begin with. This has been thoroughly documented over the years.

California remains the only state that does not license or regulate the profession of athletic training. Athletic training is regulated in 49 states as well as the District of Columbia and these regulations are recognized by the federal government, the American Medical Association and many employers, organizations, and associations.

Our dedicated members who are athletic trainers strive to provide the highest quality of care to CSU athletes and licensure will help ensure that those standards remain high. Allowing this profession to remain unregulated in California leaves our student athletes more vulnerable than anywhere else in the nation. Establishing these regulations would not only benefit the health and safety of athletes but would also facilitate trust and increase accountability in athletic training.

For these reasons, we urge your support for AB 796 and respectfully request your signature on this important measure.

Sincerely,

Catherine Hutchinson
President