

From: Barry Rhodes [mailto:portlandbrewer@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 08, 2013 10:24 AM
To: Donovan Richard; Love Hannah
Subject: Re: Testimony on SB 818

Donovan and Hannah,

Here is my written testimony to be submitted on SB 818

I am a private clinic family practice SM physician here as a member of the AMSSM. I am testifying on behalf of this organization in lieu of written testimony. I strongly support this bill as written. Commotio Cordis (CC) is a rare potentially fatal heart rhythm disturbance that arises during a seemingly innocuous blow to the chest of a young individual. The blow usually occurs in the setting of athletics that involves a firm projectile like hockey, baseball, softball or lacrosse. However, it can occur with an air filled ball such as a soccer ball or a blow to the chest with a hand or head. The blow to the chest must occur at the precise moment in the electrical cycle of the heart and at the precise location. 90% of the cases of CC occur in people under 25 years of age. There were 250 cases in the US registry in the last 16 years, but this is probably under reported as not all states mandate it. It actually causes more deaths per year than concussions in young athletes. It is the leading cause of traumatic death in youth baseball and the third leading cause of sudden cardiac death in all athletes. One of my patients as a resident had a grandson affected by this and was saved by quick thinking and an automated external defibrillator (AED)

Barry Rhodes MD