



February 5, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom:

We write this letter to express our strong, bipartisan support for outdoor youth sports and urge the California Department of Public Health to issue new guidance that will permit outdoor youth sporting activities and competitions to resume immediately across the state, with increased safety protocols in place.

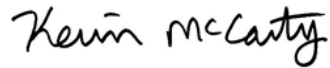
We believe strongly that California's children are in dire need of the essential elements that youth sporting activities provide including sportsmanship, exercise, team identity, accountability and enjoyment during this very difficult time in their lives. As we know, the effects of pandemic isolation on children have resulted in mental health issues including anxiety, depression and increased rates of suicide. There is also an alarming equity disparity on children from low-income communities, as private schools and exclusive club teams continue to participate in sporting activities by traveling outside of California, which is against current guidelines.

Millions of children have been "benched" from playing sports since March 2020, and the current guidance from the California Department of Public Health will keep most youth sporting activities and competitions shut down in 2021. In looking at the other states across the nation, we believe it is possible to allow outdoor youth sporting activities to continue with increased safety protocols to limit COVID transmission.

We believe California coaches will work to follow local, county and state guidelines and create safe environments where youth athletes and coaches work together to keep COVID transmission rates low.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and again, we urge the Department of Public Health to issue new guidance to permit outdoor youth sporting activities to resume immediately with proper safety protocols to place.

Sincerely,



Kevin McCarty
7th Assembly District



Jim Patterson
23rd Assembly District



Laurie Davies
73rd Assembly District



Marie Waldron
75th Assembly District



Kevin Kiley
6th Assembly District



Steven S. Choi
68th Assembly District



Thurston "Smitty" Smith
33rd Assembly District



Cottie Petrie-Norris
74th Assembly District



James Gallagher
3rd Assembly District



Megan Dahle
1st Assembly District



Janet Nguyen
72nd Assembly District



Jim Cooper
9th Assembly District



Kelly Seyarto
67th Assembly District



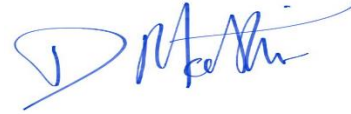
Jordan Cunningham
35th Assembly District



Suzette Martinez Valladares
38th Assembly District



Frank Bigelow
5th Assembly District



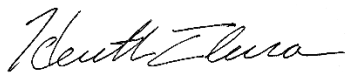
Devon Mathis
26th Assembly District



Vince Fong
34th Assembly District



Phillip Chen
55th Assembly District



Heath Flora
12th Assembly District



Randy Voepel
71st Assembly District



Tom Lackey
36th Assembly District



Kevin Mullin
22nd Assembly District



Carlos Villapudua
13th Assembly District



Tasha Boerner Horvath
76th Assembly District



Phil Ting
19th Assembly District



Ash Kalra
27th Assembly District



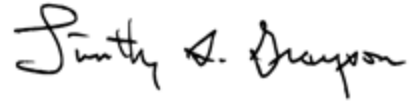
Robert Rivas
30th Assembly District



Steve Bennet
37th Assembly District



Melissa Hurtado
14th Senate District



Timothy S. Grayson
14th Assembly District



Cecelia Aguiar-Curry
4th Assembly District



Jim Frazier
11th Assembly District