

Joint Committee on Public Health

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 1541
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to athletic training
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Finegold and Keenan; Representative Vaughn of Wrentham
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Wednesday, April 2, 2025 at 09:00 AM - 02:00 PM, Gardner Auditorium
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H.2465 (Rep. Kerans) S.1533 (Sen. Feeney)

PRIOR HISTORY

S.1373 (193GC) (Redrafted, favorably reported by Public Health)

S.1438 (192GC) (Study by Public Health)

S.1338 (Filed by Senator Rush, 191GC)

CURRENT LAW

M.G.L Ch. 69 S. 8A; Ch 71 S. 54A; Ch. 112 S. 23A

SUMMARY

Removes workplace restrictions on athletic trainers without expanding their scope of practice; updates the required medical coverage at high school football games to include athletic trainers; specifies that the “trainers” included in school Emergency Actions Plans are athletic trainers.

SECTION 1: Technical change; specifies that mandatory plans for providing CPR training to teachers and other school staff includes athletic trainers specifically.

SECTION 2: Technical change; specifies that a school’s Emergency Action Plan for medical or behavioral health emergencies be developed in consultation with any applicable athletic trainers; current language includes undefined “trainers.”

SECTION 3: Expands requirements that a physician or EMS be onsite for interscholastic football games to allow a licensed athletic trainer to fill this role, provided that the present medical professional (physician, EMT, or athletic trainer) has completed annual head injury safety training as currently prescribed in regulation.

SECTION 4: Removes workplace restrictions from the definition of an “athletic trainer,” thereby allowing athletic trainers to practice outside of the specific schools or teams with whom they are associated. This does not remove the requirement that an athletic trainer may only practice under the direction of a licensed physician.

SECTION 5: Special act; charges the Board of Allied Health Professions to review and update rules and regulations as applicable within 180 days of enactment.