

In this Issue

Congressional/Administrative Update	1
The Hill coverage of President Trump’s first budget proposal blueprint for FY2018	1
New Mexico legislature passes legislation expanding requirements under concussion training to include not just coaches, but also student athlete training	1
Civil Rights Update	2
The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has sent out an action alert to keep Title IX strong.....	2
Maryland high school student banned from basketball game due to her hijab.....	2
Sports Safety Update.....	2
Study finds female soccer players suffer the most concussions in high school sports.....	2
Minneapolis considers blocking use of tire rubber on playgrounds and athletic fields	3
California measure seeks panel to protect college athletes	3
Upcoming Events Calendar.....	4

Congressional/Administrative Update

The Hill coverage of President Trump’s first budget proposal blueprint for FY2018

President Trump has released his first federal budget blueprint, revealing a plan to dramatically reduce the size of government. The document calls for deep cuts at departments and agencies that would eliminate entire programs and slash the size of the federal workforce. It also proposes a \$54 billion increase in defense spending, which the White House says will be offset by the other cuts. A full budget will be released in May containing the president's plan for programs like Medicare and Social Security. It will also contain 10-year projections for taxes and spending.

New Mexico legislature passes legislation expanding requirements under concussion training to include not just coaches, but also student athlete training

Number: NM [R] SB 38 - Updated (Status 03/16/2017)

Sponsor: Sen. William Soules (DEM-NM)

Title: BRAIN INJURY TRAINING FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Abstract: RELATING TO YOUTH ATHLETICS SAFETY; REQUIRING BRAIN INJURY TRAINING FOR STUDENT AND OTHER YOUTH ATHLETES.

Status: DO PASS committee report adopted - Passed House (53-0) - 03/15/2017

Civil Rights Update

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has sent out an action alert to keep Title IX strong

AAUW has long supported the vigorous enforcement of Title IX to ensure that our schools are free from discrimination and violence. Now more than ever, it's essential that we protect the mechanisms that keep Title IX strong. The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) plays a critical role in the enforcement of Title IX and addressing violations of students' civil rights. Congress has the ability to provide adequate funding to the Office for Civil Rights to ensure that the agency will maintain these critical services. Tell your members of Congress to stand up for gender equity in education by adequately funding OCR and fighting against any attempts to roll back Title IX!

Maryland high school student banned from basketball game due to her hijab

In the final game of the season, junior Je'Nan Hayes, a member of the Watkins Mill High School girls basketball team in Gaithersburg, MD, was kept on the bench the entire time, even when the game was well out of reach and the rest of the reserves were sent onto the court. That's because right before the game, an official at the regional final informed the Watkins Mill coach that Hayes would not be allowed to play because of her hijab—despite the fact that she played in every other game this season without issue. The official cited a “rarely enforced rule” that requires documented evidence for a player to wear head cover during a game for religious reasons. The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is advocating for the rule to be changed completely, and is currently working with the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association (MPSSA) to do just that.

Sports Safety Update

CONCUSSIONS

Study finds female soccer players suffer the most concussions in high school sports

High school girls have a significantly higher concussion rate than boys, with female soccer players suffering the most concussions, according to new research presented March 14 at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons (AAOS).

CRUMB RUBBER TURF FIELDS**Minneapolis considers blocking use of tire rubber on playgrounds and athletic fields**

The ground-up tire rubber filling playgrounds in Minnesota and across the country is facing fresh scrutiny in Minneapolis amid growing concerns the bouncy surface contains toxic chemicals. The Minneapolis City Council recently debated whether the city should use whatever leverage it can to discourage the use of tire mulch on playgrounds and athletic fields. Those decisions are largely left to school and park officials, but some City Council members are so concerned about the potential dangers to Minneapolis residents that they want to ensure city money isn't spent on the material.

- See also: **Health concerns could bring timeout for new rubberized playgrounds in Minnesota**

OTHER**California measure seeks panel to protect college athletes**

A California lawmaker is proposing that the state create a commission to protect the health and safety of collegiate athletes, something the legislation says the NCAA and school athletic departments have failed to do. The commission and its rules would apply to every competing college athlete in the state, from a community college volleyball player to an NFL-bound university football star, and to injuries from lifelong brain degeneration to sprained ankles.

- Related article about CA Rep. Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher introducing the Athlete Protection Act: <http://www.sandiego6.com/lorena-gonzalez-fletcher-introduces-athlete-protection-act/>