



Student access to health and learning. All day. Every day.

# SCHOOL CONCUSSION POLICIES

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Give school nurses the authority they need to help students who have suffered a concussion.

## ***HB 960 (Howard) - Removal From Play Protocol***

In Texas, a student must be immediately removed from interscholastic athletic activities if certain licensed healthcare professionals, an athletic trainer, or a coach believes that the student might have sustained a concussion. Unfortunately, concussions can go unnoticed at the time of impact. If a student visits the nurse with symptoms of a concussion, the nurse should have the authority to initiate the removal-from-play protocol as well. **TSNO Supports HB 960 by Howard, which would allow school nurses to initiate the protocol.**

## ***HB 961 (Howard) - Concussion Oversight Teams***

Texas school districts are required to have concussion oversight teams, which establish the protocol for a student's return to interscholastic athletics following a concussion. The team must include an athletic trainer, an advanced practice registered nurse, a neuropsychologist, or a physician assistant. School nurses not only have the expertise to help inform the protocol, but they play an integral role in caring for the student during school hours. **TSNO supports HB 961, which would allow school nurses to serve on concussion oversight teams.**

