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.