



Office of the Speaker
North Carolina House of Representatives

TIM MOORE
SPEAKER

Governor Roy Cooper
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

September 10, 2020

Dear Governor Cooper,

Thank you for your consideration of this letter regarding the start of student athletics in North Carolina. As you know, General Assembly leaders support the safe reopening of public schools and universities to ensure future generations of our state's citizens are not falling behind.

While some institutions remain open, and others remain virtual-only, thousands of young North Carolinians will begin participating in competitive sports over the coming weeks. It came to my attention that your administration does not currently plan to allow family members to attend athletic events, even if they comply with social distancing and containment guidelines.

Over the course of the pandemic, innovative methods of testing, tracing, and self-assessment have emerged that make family attendance at athletic events safely possible. Families will gather in restaurants, breweries, and other venues to watch athletic competition in large groups, often indoors. Thus, there is no justification for prohibiting family members from attending athletic events in large outdoor stadiums, where they can remain six feet apart.

On behalf of countless families who have worked hard to support the athletic careers of their students, I urge you to allow family members to safely attend athletic events in North Carolina. Amateur sports are an integral part of our traditions, and North Carolinians should not be denied the opportunity to watch their loved ones fulfill their dreams of athletic competition.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Moore", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tim Moore
Speaker of the House of Representatives