Section 2. Definitions

"Athletic training services." The management and provision of care of injuries to a physically active person as defined in this act with the direction of a licensed physician. The term includes the rendering of emergency care, development of injury prevention programs and providing appropriate preventative and supporting devices for the physically active person. The term also includes the assessment, management, treatment, rehabilitation and reconditioning of the physically active person whose conditions are within the professional preparation and education of a [certified] licensed athletic trainer. The term also includes the use of modalities such as mechanical stimulation, heat, cold, light, air, water, electricity, sound, massage and the use of therapeutic exercises, reconditioning exercise and fitness programs. Athletic training services shall not include surgery, reconditioning exercise and fitness programs. Athletic training services shall not include surgery, invasive procedures or prescription of any controlled substance.

"Board regulated practitioner." A medical doctor, midwife, physician assistant, respiratory therapist, [certified] licensed athletic trainer or drugless therapist or an applicant for a license or certificate the board may issue.

["Certified athletic trainer." A person who is certified to perform athletic training services by the State Board of Medicine or State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.]

"Direction." Supervision over the actions of a [certified] licensed athletic trainer via referral by prescription to treat conditions for a physically active person from a licensed physician, dentist or podiatrist or written protocol approved by a supervising physician, dentist or podiatrist, except that the physical presence of the supervising physician, dentist or podiatrist is not required if the supervising physician, dentist or podiatrist is readily available for consultation by direct communication, radio, telephone, facsimile, telecommunications or via other electronic means.

"Licensed athletic trainer." A person who is licensed to perform athletic training services by the State Board of Medicine or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

"Referral." An order from a licensed physician, dentist or podiatrist to a [certified] licensed athletic trainer for athletic training services. An order may be written or oral, except that an oral order must be reduced to writing within 72 hours of issuance.

"Written protocol." A written agreement developed in conjunction with one or more supervising physicians which identifies and is signed by the supervising physician and the [certified] licensed athletic trainer. It describes the manner and frequency in which the [certified] licensed athletic trainer regularly communicates with the supervising physician. It includes standard operating procedures developed in agreement with the supervising physician and [certified] licensed athletic trainer that the [certified] licensed athletic trainer follows when not directly supervised on site by the supervising physician.

Section 51.1. Athletic Trainers
a) General rule.--An athletic trainer licensed by the board may, under the direction of a physician, podiatrist or dentist, provide athletic training services to a physically active person under the care of a physician, dentist or podiatrist. An athletic trainer licensed under this section shall refer a physically active person with conditions outside the scope of athletic training services to a physician, dentist or podiatrist.

b) Temporary certifications.--((b) deleted by amendment)

b.1) Transitional rule.—

(1) Any athletic trainer who holds a valid certificate issued by the board or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, relating to the practice of athletic training, prior to the effective date of this subsection shall, on or after the effective date of this subsection, be deemed to be licensed by the board or the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine as provided in this act.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a certification that was expired or revoked prior to the effective date of this subsection.

c) Licensure, title and limitation on practice.--An athletic trainer who meets the requirements of this section shall be licensed, may use the title "athletic trainer" or the abbreviation for the title, "A.T.L.," and may perform athletic training services. A person who is not licensed under this section may not use the designation of licensed athletic trainer, athletic trainer or any of the listed abbreviations for that title, including "L.A.T." or "A.T.L.," or any similar designation. This section shall not prohibit any person trained and licensed or certified under any other law from engaging in the licensed or certified practice in which the person is trained.

d) Regulations.--The State Board of Medicine and the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine shall jointly promulgate regulations which:

(1) establish approved education and training programs for licensure; and

(2) define the circumstances and protocol under which a licensed athletic trainer may perform athletic training services.

e) Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine.--Notwithstanding any provision of the act of October 5, 1978 (P.L.1109, No.261), known as the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act, to the contrary, doctors of osteopathic medicine may supervise and direct the activities of athletic trainers to the same extent as physicians regulated by this act.

f) Jurisdiction.--The State Board of Medicine shall be responsible for the licensure of athletic trainers. Jurisdiction will be determined by the type of physician who supervises and directs the licensed athletic trainer. Licensed athletic trainers supervised by physicians regulated by the Medical Practice Act of 1985 shall fall within the jurisdiction of the State Board of Medicine.