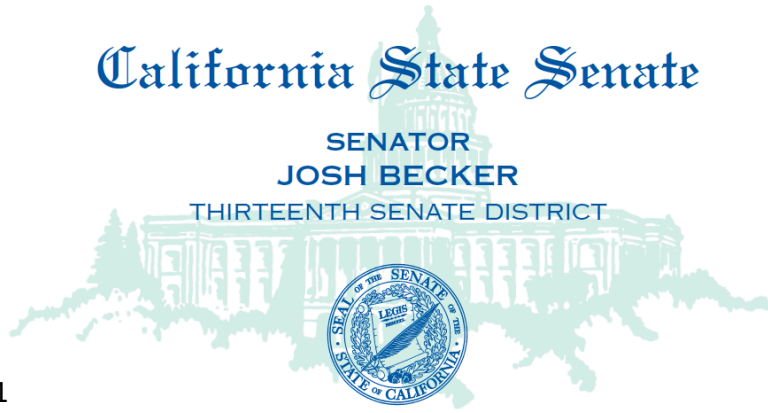


California State Senate

SENATOR
JOSH BECKER

THIRTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



February 16, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of the State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Newsom,

As a parent of two high school students who are desperately wanting to play sports again, I am writing to ask you to consider allowing high school sports to resume. Although we all must stay vigilant, there is data to support such a resumption.

Students have had to endure the trauma created by not having the ability to socialize with their friends in either a classroom or athletic setting. By implementing safety protocols, our students can return to a level of normalcy in their lives that will assist them with the emotional chaos they have had to endure.

None of us want to put children or their coaches at risk, but we can be nuanced enough to recognize that we are living in a new reality that will be with us for the better part of the rest of this year. That reality requires all of us to adjust prudently without completely shutting down with the unrealistic hope of returning to a pre-pandemic “normal” that won’t exist for many of our students’ remaining school years. We can be watchful, for example, about the new virus strains and adjust if needed.

I urge you to allow for the immediate resumption of outdoor and low-contact indoor school sports in California [with appropriate safety protocols in place](#).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Becker". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "J" and "B".

JOSH BECKER

Senator, 13th District

Cc: Jim DeBoo, Executive Secretary, Governor Newsom
Naomi Bardach, MD MAS, Lead, Safe Schools for All Team