



MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120

March 28, 2024

Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA)
550 Gettysburg Road
Mechanicsburg PA 17055

RE: End PIAA and NFHS Broadcasting Exclusivity

PIAA Board of Directors:

On Monday evening, March 18, the Marion Center High School Lady Stingers played Minersville in the PIAA Girls 2A basketball Eastern final, with a trip to the state championship on the line. Unfortunately, local broadcasters and fans were blocked from covering and streaming this pivotal game due to exclusivity between the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) Network.

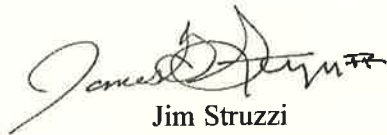
Over the past few years, the PIAA entered into an agreement with the NFHS Association, the body that writes the rules of competition for most high school sports and activities in the United States and also provides subscription video streaming services for 27 different sports across the country. Unfortunately, many Pennsylvania high schools have been locked into these "exclusive" video streaming contracts with the NFHS Network, excluding local broadcasters from covering these important games despite their local broadcaster having the resources and experience. One of these broadcasters is locally owned Renda Media. They have been broadcasting local sports for nearly 60 years and operate 15 radio stations in six markets across the commonwealth. They have also augmented their broadcast by adding streaming services to be competitive in the sports streaming market against NFHS. While this additional platform has been welcomed by the local community, and particularly embraced by fans for whom leaving the house is impossible due to a variety of challenges, the exclusivity contract between PIAA and NFHS eliminates Renda Media's ability to do what they do best and require anyone who wishes to stream the game to pay a subscription fee to access it. This is unfair on several levels, the majority of which involve the players on the court who decide the game's outcome and the fans who cheer them on.

During a 2022 hearing the Department of Education assured the General Assembly that the issue of exclusivity between PIAA and the NFHS Network would be resolved. On January 26th, 2023, legislation was introduced to allow visiting teams in high school athletic competitions, and their local broadcasters, the same rights to broadcast, stream, and provide telegraphic play-by-play accounts as the home team. As of today, March 28, 2024, House Bill 30, the Fair Play in Broadcasting Act, has strong bipartisan support and could move from the House Education Committee at any time.

It has become clear that fair broadcasting is not a priority being addressed in the PIAA, as we continue to hear from schools, local broadcasters, and constituents across the Commonwealth. For this reason, it is imperative that

restrictive exclusivity on the streaming of PIAA sports be amended for the benefit of integrity and accessibility to our local broadcasters, high school athletes, and fans. We ask that you take prompt action to fix this issue.

Sincerely,



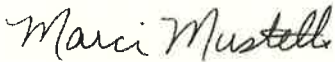
Jim Struzzi
State Representative
62nd Legislative District



Marla Brown
State Representative
9th Legislative District




Brian Smith
State Representative
66th Legislative District



Marci Mustello
State Representative
11th Legislative District



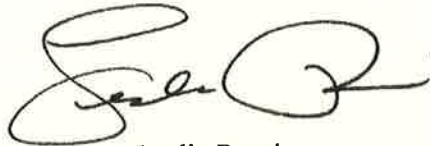
Brad Roae
State Representative
6th Legislative District



Jim Rigby
State Representative
71st Legislative District



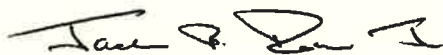
Carl Walker Metzgar
State Representative
69th Legislative District



Leslie Rossi
State Representative
59th Legislative District



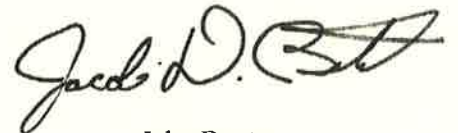
Eric Nelson
State Representative
57th Legislative District



Jack Rader
State Representative
176th Legislative District



Barry Jozwiak
State Representative
5th Legislative District



Jake Banta
State Representative
4th Legislative District



John Schlegel
State Representative
101st Legislative District



Josh Kail
State Representative
15th Legislative District



Mindy Fee
State Representative
37th Legislative District

Rob Mercuri
State Representative
28th Legislative District

Aaron Bernstine
State Representative
8th Legislative District

Jim Gregory
State Representative
80th Legislative District

Mike Armanini
State Representative
75th Legislative District

Michael Stender
State Representative
108th Legislative District

Torren Ecker
State Representative
193rd Legislative District

David Rowe
State Representative
85th Legislative District

R. Lee James
State Representative
64th Legislative District

Charity Grimm Krupa
State Representative
51st Legislative District

Dan Moul
State Representative
91st Legislative District

Parke Wentling
State Representative
7th Legislative District

Steven C. Mentzer
State Representative
97th Legislative District

Joanne Stehr
State Representative
107th Legislative District

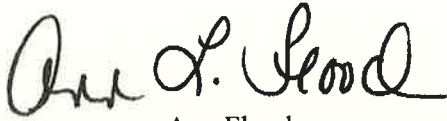
Mark Gillen
State Representative
128th Legislative District

Jason Ortitay
State Representative
46th Legislative District

Kate Klunk
State Representative
169th Legislative District

Craig Williams
State Representative
160th Legislative District

Bud Cook
State Representative
50th Legislative District



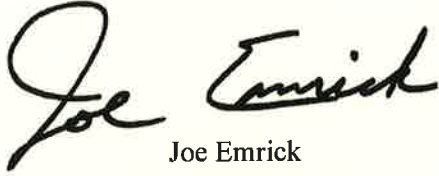
Ann Flood
State Representative
138th Legislative District



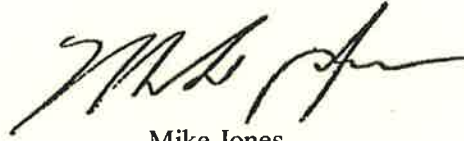
Lisa Borowski
State Representative
168th Legislative District



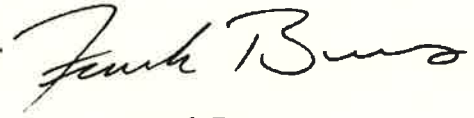
Paul Takac
State Representative
82nd Legislative District



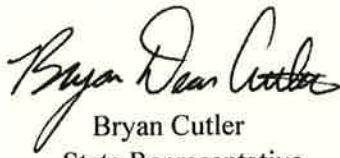
Joe Emrick
State Representative
137th Legislative District



Mike Jones
State Representative
93rd Legislative District



Frank Burns
State Representative
72nd Legislative District

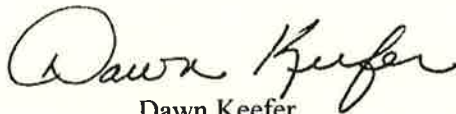


Bryan Cutler
State Representative
100th Legislative District



Brett R. Miller
State Representative
41st Legislative District

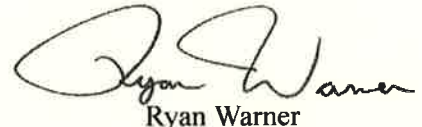
Donna Scheuren
State Representative
147th Legislative District



Dawn Keefer
State Representative
92nd Legislative District



Anita Kulik
State Representative
45th Legislative District



Ryan Warner
State Representative
52nd Legislative District