

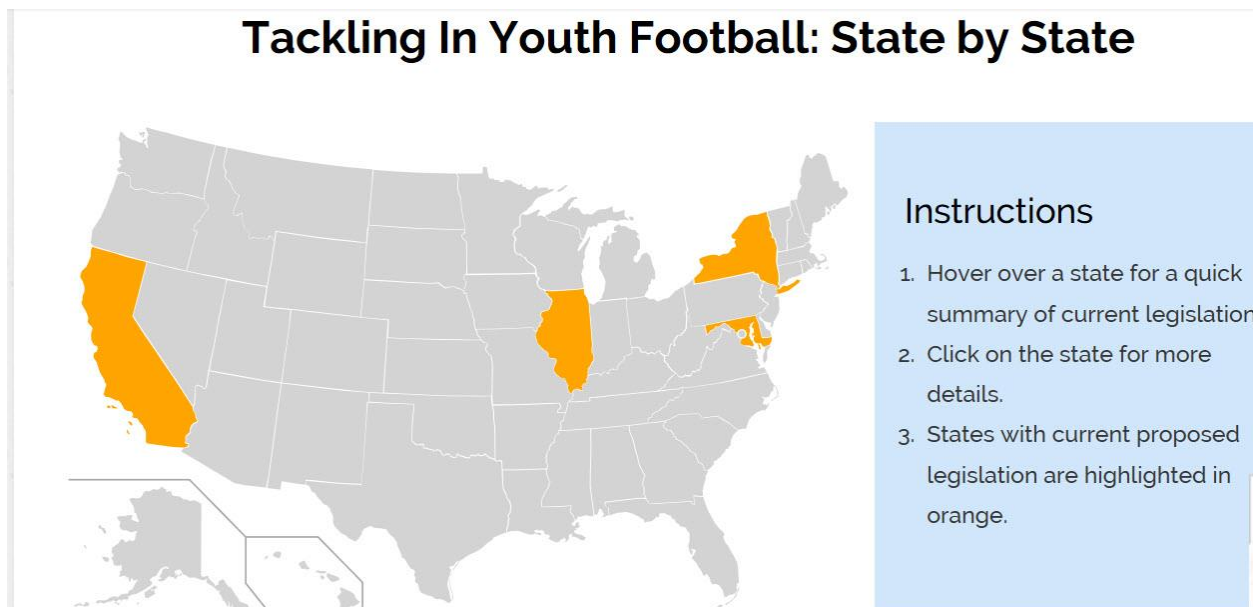


Press release

New York, 2nd March 2018

Youth Tackle Football Ban:, New York Attorneys Launch ‘One-Stop Portal’ For Tracking Legislation In All States

A new web page, launched today by New York brain injury lawyers, [De Caro & Kaplen, LLP](#), aims to provide a one-stop portal for tracking proposals, news, legislation, and related information on initiatives seeking to [ban tackling in youth football](#).



With increasing attention focused on football and the risk of brain injury, legislation has

now been proposed in several states. And the proposals are gathering speed.

Yesterday, the "Dave Duerson Act to Prevent CTE" passed the Illinois House mental health committee by an 11-9 vote and will now proceed to the full House for consideration. The bill proposes to ban tackle football for children under the age of 12 in the state of Illinois.

Similar bills have been proposed in California, New York, and Maryland, with more States expected to follow in the coming months.

"Football is a concussion delivery system," said Michael V. Kaplen, a partner in the firm, and Past President of the Brain Injury Association of New York State. According to Kaplen, "In light of the new CDC report concerning the crisis of brain injury in children, and the mounting medical evidence that tackle football can cause brain injury, we feel compelled to compile this information for parents, teachers, coaches, and all concerned about the health and safety of our youth."

Shana De Caro, a member of the firm and secretary of the Brain Injury Association of America stated, "By collecting the data in one place, we aim to simplify the process of obtaining up to date, accurate, and important information." According to De Caro, "Our aim is to provide educational material in an easily accessible format, so the public can join in efforts to protect our children's brains."

As advocates for brain injury survivors, Michael Kaplen and Shana De Caro have witnessed first-hand the real damage caused by repeated blows to the head.

They are far from alone in their concerns.

In a 2018 Report to Congress, The Management of Traumatic Brain Injury in Children: Opportunities for Action, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Injury Prevention (CDC) reiterated that traumatic brain injury in children is a significant public health concern.

The report further revealed recent statistics establish that sports and recreational activities accounted for an estimated 325,000 TBI-related ED visits by children and teens.

The 1st of March also marked the beginning of Brain Injury Awareness month, highlighted by the Brain Injury Association of America.

Shana De Caro, a partner in De Caro & Kaplen, LLP, and current secretary of the Brain Injury Association of America, explains the significance behind this year's campaign, "The message we want to convey, is "Change Your Mind". Brain injuries are seriously

misunderstood. We want to educate the public about the incidence of brain injury, the needs of those who have sustained brain injuries and their families. We also want to destigmatize brain injury and empower survivors. It is imperative that we change minds.”

De Caro & Kaplen's portal for tracking youth tackle football legislation, including an interactive map and timeline, can be found on their website at www.brainlaw.com/youth-tackle-football.

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For further information please contact Michael V. Kaplen by email michael@brainlaw.com or telephone (914) 747 4410

About De Caro & Kaplen, LLP

De Caro & Kaplen, LLP is a nationally recognized New York personal injury law firm with a special emphasis on traumatic brain injury cases. The firm's partners, Shana De Caro and Michael V. Kaplen represent victims of brain injury caused by motor vehicle accidents, truck and bus crashes, premises and construction accidents, and medical malpractice in their struggle to receive just and fair compensation.