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Honourable Ross Landry
Minister of Nova Scotia Department of Justice
Chair of the Law Amendments Committee
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Re: Snow Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131

Honourable Ross Landry,

I was pleased to hear the announcement of the Snow and Sport Helmet Act, Bill 131 by the Minister of Health, Honourable Maureen MacDonald on December 6th.

Freestyle Ski Nova Scotia requires the use of helmets for all athletes in all sanctioned activities. In addition to this, most freestyle ski features within Nova Scotia ski areas have already been zoned as helmet mandatory terrain. These measures are in place to protect our athletes and the skiing public using this terrain. By passing Bill 131, Nova Scotia will spread this message of safety beyond registered athletes in "at risk" areas to the skiing and boarding public as a whole over all terrain. I fully support Bill 131, and am impressed by the trailblazing initiative of this government.

Personally, I've been wearing a helmet for the past nine years. I know that I was reluctant at first to make the change. I'd been skiing since childhood without a head injury. Why would I decide to change? Knowing an individual who had experienced a tragic accident but who'd survived due to wearing a helmet made the difference to me. I will never look back, and count myself lucky to have survived my skiing childhood with my head intact!

For the safety and future success of the skiing and boarding sports, I fully endorse Bill 131. Passing this bill is the right thing to do!

Sincerely,

Eric W. Mullaley
Chair, FSNS

CC: Gordon Hebb, Chief Legislative Counsel
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