



July 14, 2025

Giulia Leganski, Chief Counsel  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, & Trade  
House Committee on Energy & Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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***Athletes.org's Comments and Feedback Regarding the Revised Draft of the "Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements Act of 2025" (SCORE Act)***

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Dear Chairman Guthrie, Members of the Committee, and Committee Staff:

On behalf of Athletes.Org, and the thousands of college athletes across the nation, I want to thank you and the Committee for your leadership in crafting the "Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements Act" (the "SCORE Act") and for the opportunity to provide continued input on this important legislative initiative.

Athletes.org (AO) is the leading players association for college athletes. We represent over 5,000 active Division I athletes. We empower AO member-athletes by amplifying their voices through member education and advocacy. In AO's advocacy to date, we have produced a discussion draft that represents the priorities of our student-athlete members, the "Save College Athletics Act" that we attach herein as a reference as **Exhibit A**.

AO supports the overarching goal of establishing a national standard for college athlete rights and protections, and we appreciate the Committee's willingness to circulate the SCORE Act as a discussion draft and engage stakeholders in a substantive dialogue. As part of this process, we are submitting proposed amendments to the discussion draft that seeks to combine the SCORE Act and key provisions of our Save College Athletics Act. For each proposed revision, we have included a brief explanation of the rationale and the underlying concern it seeks to address.

Summaries of the recommendations can be found below:

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1. **Sec. 2(1). Definitions - Agent Definition:** AO recommends striking the SCORE Act's definition of "Agent" and replacing it with the more comprehensive definition of an "Athlete Representative" from the "Save College Athletics Act". The "Athlete Representative" definition provides a more comprehensive

definition than the SCORE Act’s “Agent” definition to reflect the broad spectrum of potential types of representatives that could represent an athlete and more aligned with the reality of the ecosystem of representatives that athletes currently look to for representation.

2. **Sec. 5(a)(2)(A) - Requirements Applicable to Certain Institutions - Requirements:** Under this section medical care is provided to college athletes for injuries related to sports up to 2 years after separation from their institution. AO recommends increasing this term to 4 years. Sports related injuries such as or Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, for example, may not even manifest until years after a college athlete graduates or separates from their institution. This increase allows for more college athletes to receive adequate care to address their injuries incurred while they participated in collegiate athletics.
3. **Sec. 5(a)(2)(C) - Requirements Applicable to Certain Institutions - Administrative Structure:** AO recommends that this provision either be expanded or that the SCORE Act include a rulemaking section where a subsequent rulemaking can flesh out the details of what this administrative structure would look like, how it would operate, etc. For example, AO provides its members with independent medical assessments and second opinions, but the SCORE Act as currently drafted does not envision a player’s association like AO, so the operation of such an administrative structure is unclear. This language fails to provide athletic departments, athletes, or their representatives clarity as to what compliance with this provision would look like. We recommend either providing additional detail on this administrative structure and/or including a rulemaking section to the SCORE Act that would allow organizations like AO to weigh in through a public rulemaking process that can flesh out what such an administrative structure that could provide truly independent medical decisions would look like.
4. **Sec. 5(a)(4)(c) - Requirements Applicable to Certain Institutions - Applicability:** AO lowering the threshold to \$50,000 to encompass more schools and athletes. This section’s education and health benefits are issues that our members tell us matter the most to them – and these benefits should broadly reach as many college athletes as possible. We recommend lowering the threshold of covered institutions to cover any institution that pays a varsity coach at least \$50,000 to ensure that these benefits are not limited to athletes from the largest programs.
5. **Sec. 6(1,2) - Interstate Athletic Associations:** While we understand that *House* and some state NIL laws may require disclosure of NIL information and allow for the anonymization and sharing of aggregated NIL information, AO is opposed to these provisions – generally and in the SCORE Act – as we believe they impose an undue invasion college athletes’ privacy and business dealings. We are also concerned that this information could be used to limit the NIL potential of athletes. We respectfully request that these provisions be stricken from any future versions of the SCORE Act.
6. **Sec. 6(3,4,5,6,7,8, and 10) - Interstate Athletic Associations:** AO recommends striking sections 3,4,5,6,7,8, and 10 because these terms should be collectively bargained between college athletes and their institutions. We recommend that the SCORE Act include the Save College Athletics Act’s creation of non-employment collective bargaining that outlines the topics that would subject to collective bargaining. We believe that this approach limits Congress’ involvement and leaves critical issues of health, safety, educational benefits, and other athlete protections to the parties that understand these issues best: players and their institutions.
7. **Sec. 7 - Liability Limitations:** AO recommends that the SCORE Act adopt the Save College Athletics Act’s narrow liability limitation provision. We believe that the *House* settlement creates a new set of antitrust issues and leaves a host of issues unresolved that future litigation may need to address. Since

*House* was largely focused on NIL matters, the scope of the limitation on liability should be only involve NIL-related matters.

8. **Sec. 8 - Employment Standing:** We strongly oppose any effort to permanently ban athletes from becoming employees. While such a provision may be enough to get a provision through the House of Representatives, such a permanent ban is non-starter in the Senate where any legislation would require at least 60 votes to pass. We offer an alternative in the Save College Athletics Act that provides for non-employment collective bargaining for athletes that receive revenue sharing payments pursuant to the *House* settlement as those athletes have an economic relationship with their institutions that most closely resemble employment. We believe that this approach would attract more bipartisan support and lead to legislation that could pass both chambers.
9. **Sec. 10(1) Preemption – Retain the “Employment Status” language if the amended version of the SCORE Act includes non-employment collective bargaining:** If an amended SCORE Act includes the non-employment collective bargaining language that we describe above and detail further in the Save College Athletics Act, we support preempting state law seeking to regulate the employment status of college athletes if non-employment collective bargaining is established through federal legislation.
10. **Add Save College Athletics Act Provision Establishing CAC:** We strongly urge the tri-committee working group to adopt the framework proposed in our discussion draft, which includes non-employment collective bargaining rights, recognition of certified players associations, and a co-governance model through the “College Athletics Corporation” (CAC) to ensure that athlete voices are at the center of all major policy decisions. Post-*House*, neither the NCAA or the College Sports Commission provide an independent, athlete voice to governing collegiate athletics or the administration of the *House* settlement. The CAC in our discussion draft would consist of members with representation of athletes, associations, administrators, other experts, and unaffiliated individuals to weigh in on a broad range of issues affecting collegiate athletics. Regulated entities routinely must engage with multiple regulatory and industry bodies, and absent the creation of a CAC consistent with the amendments we propose from our discussion draft, there will be no oversight body that incorporates independent athletes’ perspectives in governing collegiate athletics.
11. **Add Save College Athletics Act Provision Defining Players Assoc., the Role of Players Assoc. and Allowing for Collective Bargaining:** One of the most critical shortcomings of the SCORE Act is the absence of enforceable collective bargaining rights and formal recognition of players associations. While we understand that House Education and Workforce is developing legislative text that addresses these concerns, our proposal clearly outlines a path towards collective bargaining. We offer a clear mechanism for athletes to collectively negotiate the terms of their participation, compensation, or working conditions. This gap is particularly troubling given the accelerating momentum—both in legal forums and public policy—for recognizing the labor and governance rights of college athletes.
12. **Add Save College Athletics Act Provision Regarding NIL:** The SCORE Act grants expansive rulemaking and enforcement authority to intercollegiate athletic associations, including powers over athlete eligibility, recruitment, transfer, and revenue-sharing policies. As written, the SCORE Act risks entrenching the status quo by placing too much power in legacy institutions like the NCAA, often at the expense of athlete autonomy and transparency. In contrast, the Save College Athletics Act draft transfers certain regulatory authority to the CAC – with oversight from the Federal Trade Commission – and requires certified players associations to co-develop rules, ensuring shared governance. We urge the Committee to revise the federal framework to limit association authority, implement independent oversight, and ensure any NIL data tools are subject to athlete control and rigorous privacy protections.

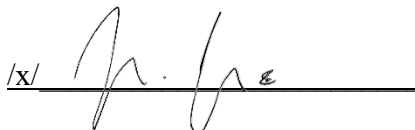
**13. Add Save College Athletics Act Provision Reporting and Requiring a GAO Study on Olympic Sports:**

AO recommend the addition of reporting and a GAO study on Olympic Sports to protect the rights of these athletes and study ways to ensure that they are adequately compensated under a federal standard for college athletes. In our advocacy to date and in public statements from members, the future of Olympic sports because of *House*-related developments is a recurring theme. Our proposed amendments include a GAO study that would study – inter alia – the impacts of the *House* settlement on Olympic sports, international models for federal support of Olympic sports, and what potential federal support could look like to ensure that the United States maintains its competitive edge in Olympic sports in collaboration with collegiate athletics and the various U.S. stakeholders involved in collegiate Olympic sports and the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

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Athletes.org is committed to working collaboratively with Congress and hope our feedback on the current draft of the SCORE Act helps the Committee better address the concerns and rights of college athletes. We respectfully urge the Committee to revise the bill in accordance with our recommendations and welcome further opportunities to engage on the drafting of this critical legislation.

Sincerely,



Jim Cavale, Co-Founder  
[Athletes.org](https://athletes.org) (AO)

CC:

Congressman Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Energy and Commerce Committee

Congressman Gus Bilirakis, Chairman, Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee, House Energy and Commerce Committee

Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, Ranking Member, Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Subcommittee, House Energy and Commerce Committee

Congressman Jim Jordan, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee

Congressman Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, House Judiciary Committee

Congressman Scott Fitzgerald, Chairman, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, House Judiciary Committee

Congressman Jerrold Nadler, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on the Administrative State, Regulatory Reform, and Antitrust, House Judiciary Committee

Congressman Tim Walberg, Chairman, House Committee on Education and Workforce

Congressman Bobby Scott, Ranking Member, House Committee on Education and Workforce

Senator Ted Cruz, Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Senator Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Senator Jerry Moran

Senator Richard Blumenthal

Senator Cory Booker

Senator Chris Coons



# EXHIBIT A

119th CONGRESS

1st Session

To clarify the employment status of select college athletes, to establish collective bargaining rights for college athletes, to provide an antitrust exemption, and for other purposes.

**A BILL**

To clarify the employment status of select college athletes, to establish collective bargaining rights for college athletes, to provide an antitrust exemption, and for other purposes.

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1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*  
2       *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Save College Athletics Act  
5       of 2025”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

8               (1)     AGENCY CONTRACT.   The term “agency  
9       contract” means a written agreement in which a college  
10      athlete authorizes an athlete representative to act on behalf  
11      of the college athlete.

12            (2)     Athlete representative.

13                    (A)   IN GENERAL.   The term “athlete  
14      representative” means an individual who-

15                           (i)   enters into an agency contract  
16                           with a college athlete; or

17                           (ii)   directly or indirectly recruits or  
18                           solicits a college athlete for the purpose of-

2

1 (I) entering into an agency

2 contract with the college athlete;

3 (II) representing or attempting

4 to represent the college athlete for the

5 purpose of marketing his or her

6 athletics ability or reputation for

7 financial gain; or

8 (III) seeking to obtain any type

9 of agreement for financial gain or

10 benefit from the potential earnings of

11 the college athlete as a professional

12 athlete.

13 (B) INCLUSIONS. The term “athlete

14 representative” includes-

15 (i) a certified contract advisor;

16 (ii) a financial advisor;

17 (iii) a marketing representative;

18 (iv) a brand manager;

19 (v) a players association; and

1 (vi) any individual employed by an  
2 individual described in any of clauses  
3 (i) through (iv).

4 (C) EXCLUSIONS. The term “athlete  
5 representative” does not include-

6 (i) the spouse, parent, sibling,  
7 grandparent, or-legal guardian of a college  
8 athlete;

9 (ii) an individual acting solely on  
10 behalf of a professional sports team or a  
11 professional sports organization-;

12 (iii) an attorney authorized to  
13 practice law in any state in the United States,  
14 the District of Columbia, or the U.S.  
15 territories.

16 (3) CAC. The term “CAC” means the College  
17 Athletics Corporation established by section 7(a).

18 (4) COLLEGE ATHLETE. The term “college  
19 athlete” means an athlete who is recruited to attend, or is  
20 enrolled in, a 2-year or 4-year degree-granting institution

1 of higher education to participate in its designated  
2 intercollegiate athletics program.

3 (5) COLLEGE ATHLETIC COMPETITION. The term  
4 “college athletic competition” means any varsity game,  
5 meet, or other competition between or among athletic  
6 teams sponsored by institutions of higher education.

7 (6) COLLEGE ATHLETIC EVENT.

8 (A) IN GENERAL The term “college athletic  
9 event” means, but is not limited to, a game, meet,  
10 competition, banquet, practice, conditioning  
11 session, media session, or any other event that has  
12 been organized or authorized by an intercollegiate  
13 athletics department of an institution of higher  
14 education or by a intercollegiate athletic  
15 association, regardless of whether such event occurs  
16 on or off the campus of an institution of higher  
17 education or during or outside the season for  
18 competition.

1 (B) INCLUSION. The term “college athletic  
2 event” includes travel to and from any event  
3 described in subparagraph (A).

4 (7) COMMISSION. The term “commission”  
5 means the federal agency Congress permits to oversee the  
6 CAC.

7 (8) CONFERENCE. The term “conference” means  
8 any organization or association that-

9 (A) has as members 2 or more institutions  
10 of higher education; and

11 (B) arranges championships and sets rules  
12 for college athletic competition.

13 (9) COST OF ATTENDANCE. The term “cost of  
14 attendance”-

15 (A) has the meaning given the term in  
16 Section 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
17 (20 U.S.C. 108711); and

18 (B) shall be calculated by the financial aid  
19 office of an institution of higher education applying

1 the same standards, policies, and procedures for all  
2 students.

3 (10) COVERED COMPENSATION.

4 (A) IN GENERAL. The term “covered  
5 compensation” means any remuneration provided  
6 by a third party to a college athlete, in cash or in  
7 kind and regardless of the date on which the  
8 remuneration is provided.

9 (B) EXCLUSION. The term “covered  
10 compensation” does not include the payment or  
11 provision of any of the following-

12 (i) grants-in-aid;

13 (ii) Federal Pell Grants and other  
14 State or Federal grants unrelated to and not  
15 awarded with regard to participation in  
16 college athletic events;

17 (iii) health insurance and costs of  
18 health care, including health insurance and  
19 health care costs wholly or partly self-funded

1 by an institution of higher education or an  
2 intercollegiate athletic association;

3 (iv) disability and loss-of-value  
4 insurance, including disability and  
5 loss-of-value insurance that is wholly or  
6 partly self-funded by an institution of higher  
7 education or an intercollegiate athletic  
8 association;

9 (v) career counseling, job  
10 placement services, and other guidance  
11 available to all students at an institution of  
12 higher education;

13 (vi) payment of hourly wages and  
14 benefits for work actually performed (and not  
15 for participation in college athletic events) at  
16 a rate commensurate with the going rate in  
17 the locality of an institution of higher  
18 education for similar work.

19 (11) ENDORSEMENT CONTRACT. The term  
20 “endorsement contract” has the meaning given the term in



1           Section 2 of the Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act  
2           (15 U.S.C. 7801).

3                   (12) FORMER COLLEGE ATHLETE. The term  
4           “former college athlete” means a college athlete who is no  
5           longer eligible to participate in college athletic  
6           competition.

7                   (13) GRANT-IN-AID. The term “grant-in- aid”-

8                           (A) means a scholarship, grant, stipend, or  
9                   other form of financial assistance, including the  
10           provision of tuition, room, board, books, or funds  
11           for fees or personal expenses, that-

12                                   (i) is paid or provided by an  
13                   institution of higher education to a student for  
14                   the student’s undergraduate or graduate  
15                   course of study; and

16                                   (ii) is in an amount that does not  
17                   exceed the cost of attendance for such student  
18                   at the institution; and



1 (A) has the meaning given the term under  
2 section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
3 (20 U.S.C. 1001); and

4 (B) includes controlled affiliates that  
5 operate athletics departments on behalf of  
6 institutions of higher education.

7 (17) LIKENESS. The term “likeness” means-

8 (A) with respect to a college athlete of a  
9 sport for which the athlete has a jersey number, the  
10 jersey number associated with the athlete and the  
11 sport in which the athlete participates at a particular  
12 institution of higher education during the period of  
13 the participation of the athlete in the sport at the  
14 institution of higher education, if the jersey number  
15 is accompanied by-

16 (i) a logo or color scheme that is  
17 clearly associated with the institution of  
18 higher education; or

11

1 (ii) some other means by which the  
2 jersey number is clearly associated with the  
3 particular athlete; and

4 (B) with respect to any college athlete-

5 (i) the uniquely identifiable voice  
6 or catch phrase of the athlete; or

7 (ii) any other trademark that  
8 identifies or distinguishes the athlete.

9 (18) NAME. The term “name”, with respect to a  
10 college athlete, means-

11 (A) a combination of a first and last or  
12 family name that identifies the athlete;

13 (B) a last or family name that identifies the  
14 athlete; or

15 (C) a unique nickname that identifies the  
16 athlete.

17 (19) OLYMPIC SPORTS. The term “Olympic  
18 Sports” means those sports included in the Summer and  
19 Winter Olympic Games, representing international  
20 athletic competitions where athletes compete for their

1 countries, governed by the International Olympic  
2 Committee and its affiliated international federations.

3 (20) PLAYERS ASSOCIATION.

4 (A) IN GENERAL. The term “Players  
5 Association” means an independent, nonprofit  
6 entity who-

7 (i) Represents at least 4,000 current  
8 college athletes;

9 (ii) Not affiliated with any  
10 intercollegiate athletic association; and

11 (iii) Complies with guidance to be  
12 certified by CAC as a players association for  
13 purposes of this statute.

14 (21) THIRD PARTY. The term “third party” means  
15 an individual or entity that-

16 (A) is not an institution of higher  
17 education, a conference, or a intercollegiate athletic  
18 association; and

19 (B) is unaffiliated with-

20 (i) a conference; or

1 (ii) an intercollegiate athletic  
2 association.

3 (22) UNAFFILIATED. With respect to 2 or more  
4 individuals or entities, the term “unaffiliated” means that  
5 the individuals or entities do not share interrelated  
6 operations, common management, centralized control of  
7 labor relations, or common ownership or financial control.

8 **SEC. 3. NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL. An institution of higher education,  
10 conference, or intercollegiate athletic association, may not  
11 punish or prohibit the participation of a college athlete in a  
12 college athletic event or college athletic competition based on the  
13 college athlete having entered an endorsement contract with a  
14 third party.

15 **SEC. 4. SPECIAL NON-EMPLOYEE STATUS FOR**  
16 **SELECT COLLEGE ATHLETES.**

17 (1) DEFINITIONS. —Section 203 of the Fair  
18 Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. § 201) is amended—

19 (A) “Special Athlete Non-Employee”  
20 means an athlete at a Division I college or university

1                   that receives direct compensation from an  
2                   institution of higher education.

3                   (2)       EXEMPTIONS. –Section 213 of the Fair  
4       Labor Standards Act is amended –

5                   (A)    The provisions of section 206 and 207  
6                   of this title shall not apply with respect to Special  
7                   Athlete Non-Employees. Without limitation, all  
8                   matters involving wages, compensation,  
9                   educational benefits, working conditions,  
10                  protections, support, training, travel, injury  
11                  management, discipline and grievances, and any  
12                  other matters pertaining to their participation in  
13                  college athletic events shall be determined through  
14                  collective bargaining pursuant to Section 5 of this  
15                  Act.

16                  (3)    RECOGNITION        OF       PLAYERS  
17       ASSOCIATION. the Fair Labor Standard is amended –

18                  (A)    Special Athlete Non-Employees may  
19                  choose to be represented by a players association  
20                  certified by the CAC to collectively represent their

1 interests. Only entities that qualify as “players  
2 associations” pursuant to Section 2 of this Act shall  
3 be allowed to collectively bargain pursuant to  
4 Section 5 of this Act on Special Athlete Non-  
5 Employees’ behalf.

6 **SEC. 5. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS FOR**  
7 **COLLEGE ATHLETES WITH**  
8 **SPECIAL ATHLETE NON-EMPLOYEE**  
9 **STATUS.**

10 (1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the National  
11 Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 152) is amended—

12 (A) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end  
13 the following: “Notwithstanding the previous  
14 sentence, the term ‘employer’ includes a public  
15 institution of higher education with respect to any  
16 individual designated as “Special Athlete Non-  
17 Employees” pursuant to Section 4 of this Act;

18 (B) in paragraph (3), by adding at the end  
19 the following: “Any individual designated as a  
20 “Special Non-Employee”, and is a student enrolled



1 in the institution of higher education, shall be  
2 allowed to collectively bargain if—

3 “(A) the individual is a Division I  
4 athlete that receives direct  
5 compensation pursuant to *Grant*  
6 *House and Sedona Prince v. National*  
7 *Collegiate Athletic Association, et al.*;

8 “(B) any terms or conditions of such  
9 compensation require participation in  
10 an intercollegiate sport.”; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(15) The term ‘institution of higher  
13 education’ has the meaning given the  
14 term in section 102 of the Higher  
15 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
16 1002).

17 (2) MULTIEMPLOYER BARGAINING  
18 UNIT.—Section 9(b) of the National Labor Relations Act  
19 (29 U.S.C. 159(b)) is amended by striking the period at the  
20 end and inserting the following: “Provided, that, for the

1 purpose of establishing an appropriate bargaining unit for  
2 “Special Athlete Non-Employees” at institutions of higher  
3 education in an intercollegiate athletic association, the  
4 Board shall recognize multiple institutions of higher  
5 education within an intercollegiate athletic conference, or an  
6 intercollegiate athletic conference, as a multiemployer  
7 bargaining unit, but only if consented to by the “Special  
8 Athlete Non-Employee” representatives for the  
9 intercollegiate sports bargaining units at the institutions of  
10 higher education that will be included in the multiemployer  
11 bargaining unit.”

12 (3) JURISDICTION RELATED TO  
13 INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTS.—Section 14(c)(1) of the  
14 National Labor Relations Act (29 U.S.C. 164(c)(1)) is  
15 amended by striking “Provided,” and inserting the  
16 following: “Provided, That the Board shall exercise  
17 jurisdiction over institutions of higher education and  
18 “Special Athlete Non-Employees” of such institutions in  
19 relation to all collective bargaining matters under this Act  
20 pertaining to such “Special Athlete Non-Employees”,

1 including any representation matter, such as recognizing or  
2 establishing a bargaining unit for such “Special Athlete  
3 Non-Employees” and any labor dispute involving such  
4 institutions and “Special Athlete Non-Employees”:  
5 Provided further,”.

6 (4) PROHIBITION ON WAIVER.—A “Special  
7 Athlete Non-Employee” may not enter into any agreement  
8 (including an agreement for grant-in-aid, as defined in  
9 section 3(15) of the National Labor Relations Act (29  
10 U.S.C. 152(15))) or legal settlement that waives or permits  
11 noncompliance with this Act or the amendments made by  
12 this Act.

13 (5) PARITY WITH EMPLOYEE  
14 MEMBERS.— Any collective bargaining pursuant to this  
15 amendment shall grant the negotiating parties the same  
16 protections as set forth in the non-statutory labor exemption  
17 to federal antitrust laws which apply to labor organizations  
18 that collective bargain on behalf of their employee  
19 members.

1                   (6)       MANDATORY                   BARGAINING  
2       SUBJECTS. ---- With respect to bargaining, parties to a  
3       collective bargaining agreement shall be required to bargain  
4       on the following subjects: health and safety standards,  
5       medical coverage during a college athlete’s time performing  
6       for an institution of higher education, medical coverage  
7       after a college athlete’s time performing for an institution of  
8       higher education, revenue sharing, practice time, the  
9       movement of college athletes to-and-from institutions of  
10      higher education, and time spent on team-related activities.

11   **SEC. 6. NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS FOR**  
12                           **INTERNATIONAL COLLEGIATE**  
13                           **ATHLETES.**

14                   (1)       Section 101(a)(15)(F) of the Immigration and  
15      Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(F)) is amended

16                           (A)    in clause (ii), by striking “and” at the  
17                           end; and

18                           (B)    in clause (iii), by striking the  
19                           semicolon at the end and inserting “, and (iv) an  
20                           alien who is or will become a college athlete upon

1 enrollment at an institution of higher education (as  
2 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act  
3 of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)) and who intends to enter  
4 into an endorsement contract, revenue sharing  
5 agreement, or any other agreement covered by this  
6 Act, for the purpose of earning compensation for  
7 the commercial use of the alien’s name, image, or  
8 likeness;”.

9 (2) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.

10 Section 214(m) of Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
11 U.S.C. 1184(m)) is amended by adding at the end the  
12 following:

13 “(3)(A) A nonimmigrant who obtains  
14 the status of a nonimmigrant under  
15 clause (iv) of section 101(a)(15)(F)  
16 shall be eligible for employment  
17 authorization for the purpose of  
18 engaging in activities pursuant to an  
19 endorsement contract, revenue sharing  
20 agreement, or any other agreement

1                   governed by this Act, for the  
2                   commercial use of the nonimmigrant’s  
3                   name, image, or likeness.

4                   “(B) The Secretary of Homeland  
5                   Security may seek to engage the  
6                   designated school official of the  
7                   institution of higher education at  
8                   which such a nonimmigrant is enrolled  
9                   in oversight of the employment  
10                  activity of the non-immigrant for the  
11                  purpose of ensuring compliance with  
12                  this paragraph.”.

13

14   **SEC. 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE**  
15                   **ATHLETICS CORPORATION.**

16                  (a) ESTABLISHMENT. There is established a  
17                  corporation, to be known as the “College Athletics Corporation.”

18                  (b) PURPOSES. The purposes of the CAC are as follows:

1           (1)     To serve as a clearinghouse for best practices  
2           with respect to the rights and protections of college athletes  
3           who enter into agency contracts and endorsement contracts,  
4           including by providing guidance to college athletes  
5           concerning such contracts.

6           (2)     Subject to final approval from the  
7           Commission, establish rules and investigatory processes  
8           and to bring actions to enforce this Act and any established  
9           collective bargaining agreement(s) with respect to athlete  
10          representatives, institutions of higher education,  
11          conferences, and intercollegiate athletic associations that  
12          violate such rules and agreement(s).

13          (3)     To establish a formal certification process for  
14          athlete representatives and players associations, by which  
15          the CAC shall-

16                 (A)   determine the eligibility of an  
17                 individual to serve as an athlete representative;

18                 (B)   periodically verify an athlete  
19                 representative's continued eligibility and  
20                 compliance with this Act and the best practices,

1 rules, and competency and ethical standards  
2 established under this subsection; and

3 (C) in the case of noncompliance with this  
4 Act or any such best practice, rule, collective  
5 bargaining agreement(s), or competency or ethical  
6 standard, revoke a certification issued in accordance  
7 with this paragraph.

8 (4) To provide recommendations to institutions  
9 of higher education, conferences, and intercollegiate  
10 athletic associations on how to protect college athletes  
11 from unfair or deceptive business practices undertaken by  
12 athlete representatives.

13 (5) Subject to final approval from the  
14 Commission, investigate disputes with respect to agency  
15 contracts and endorsement contracts entered into by  
16 college athletes, including-

17 (A) verifying that athlete representatives  
18 involved in the endorsement contract process have  
19 acted in the best interests of college athletes; and



1 (B) monitoring compliance with, and  
2 making determinations and findings concerning  
3 violations of, this Act.

4 (6) To provide college athletes with a process for  
5 the resolution of conflicts concerning agency contracts and  
6 endorsement contracts, or any other agreements governed  
7 by this Act, including by providing a neutral arbitrator for  
8 any case in which a college athlete is the complaining  
9 party if requested by both parties.

10 (7) To ensure institutions of higher education  
11 and are complying with agency contract and endorsement  
12 contract rules set forth by the CAC in consultation with  
13 certified players associations in accordance with this  
14 section.

15 (c) MEMBERSHIP.

16 (1) ELIGIBILITY. Eligibility for membership in  
17 the CAC shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws  
18 of the CAC.

19 (2) REQUIRED PROVISIONS FOR REPRESENTATION.

20 In its constitution and bylaws, the CAC shall establish and

1 maintain provisions with respect to its governance and the  
2 conduct of its affairs for the reasonable representation of-

3 (A) college athletes;

4 (B) certified players associations;

5 (C) administrators of institutions of higher  
6 education, including directors of athletics;

7 (D) administrators of intercollegiate  
8 athletic associations;

9 (E) -athletic conference administrators;

10 (F) professionals with expertise in sports  
11 marketing, contracting, and public relations; and

12 (G) individuals unaffiliated with any  
13 intercollegiate athletic association who, in the  
14 judgment of the board of directors of the CAC,  
15 represent the interest of providing oversight of the  
16 activities of the CAC.

17 (d) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

18 (1) IN GENERAL. The CAC shall be governed by  
19 a board of directors comprised of 15 voting members, which  
20 shall include seven voting members who comprise current

1       and former college athletes selected by a certified players  
2       association, seven voting members representing  
3       intercollegiate athletic associations, and one voting member  
4       who is a certified players association.

5               (2)     REPRESENTATION.

6                       (A)    IN GENERAL. Not less than 1/3 of the  
7                       membership of the board of directors of the CAC  
8                       shall be composed of current or former college  
9                       athletes selected by a certified players association.

10                      (B)    CURRENT COLLEGE ATHLETES. Not  
11                      less than 20 percent of the membership of the board  
12                      of directors of the CAC shall be composed of  
13                      college athletes selected by a certified players  
14                      association who are-

15                               (i)   actively engaged in college  
16                               athletic events; or

17                               (ii)   have engaged in college athletic  
18                               events during the 10 years immediately  
19                               preceding appointment to the board of  
20                               directors.

1 (e) POWERS.

2 (1) CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS. The CAC shall  
3 adopt a constitution and bylaws.

4 (2) GENERAL CORPORATE POWERS. The CAC  
5 may-

6 (A) establish and maintain offices to  
7 conduct the affairs of the CAC;

8 (B) enter into contracts;

9 (C) accept gifts, legacies, and devises m  
10 furtherance of its corporate purposes;

11 (D) acquire, own, lease, encumber, and  
12 transfer property as necessary to carry out the  
13 purposes of the CAC;

14 (E) borrow money, issue instruments of  
15 indebtedness, and secure its obligations by granting  
16 security interests in its property;

17 (F) publish a magazine, newsletter, and  
18 other publications consistent with its corporate  
19 purposes;

1 (G) approve and revoke membership in the  
2 CAC; and

3 (H) conduct any other activity necessary  
4 and proper to carry out the purposes of the CAC.

5 (3) SUBPOENA POWER. Subject to the final  
6 approval of the Commission, the CAC shall have subpoena  
7 power and shall adopt rules that will result in the CAC, in  
8 response to appropriate requests, issuing subpoenas duces  
9 tecum and ad testificandum and compelling deposition  
10 testimony at the request of a intercollegiate athletic  
11 association.

12 (f) RESTRICTIONS.

13 (1) PROFIT AND STOCK. The CAC may not  
14 engage in business for profit or issue stock.

15 (2) POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. The CAC shall be  
16 nonpolitical and may not promote the candidacy of an  
17 individual seeking public office.

18 (g) HEADQUARTERS, PRINCIPAL OFFICE, AND MEETINGS.

19 The CAC shall maintain its principal office and national  
20 headquarters in a location in the United States chosen by the

1 CAC. The CAC may hold its annual and special meetings in the  
2 places chosen by the CAC.

3 (h) SERVICE OF PROCESS. As a condition to the exercise  
4 of any power or privilege granted by this section, the CAC shall  
5 have a designated agent to receive service of process for the  
6 CAC. Notice to or service on the agent, or mailed to the business  
7 address of the agent, is notice to or service on the CAC.

8 (i) REPORT. Not less frequently than annually, the  
9 CAC shall submit to the Committee on Commerce,  
10 Transportation, and Science of the Senate and the Committee on  
11 Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report  
12 that includes-

13 (1) the number of disputes investigated by the  
14 CAC in the preceding year pursuant to subsection (b)(6);

15 (2) the number of such disputes filed in the  
16 preceding year; and

17 (3) any recommendations to improve the  
18 endorsement contract process.

1   **SEC. 8. ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS BY STATES.**

2           (a)   IN GENERAL. In any case in which the attorney  
3   general of a State, or such other official as the State may  
4   designate, has reason to believe that an interest of the residents  
5   of such State has been or is threatened or adversely affected by  
6   an act or practice in violation of this Act, or a standard or rule  
7   established under this Act, the State may bring a civil action on  
8   behalf of the residents of the State in an appropriate State court  
9   or a Federal district court of the United States that is located in  
10   the State and has jurisdiction over the defendant-

11               (1)   to enforce compliance with this Act or such  
12   standard or rule; and

13               (2)   for all appropriate remedies.

14           (b)   NOTICE.

15               (1)   IN GENERAL. Before filing an action under  
16   this section or commencing any other administrative or  
17   regulatory proceeding to enforce this Act, or a standard or  
18   rule established under this Act, the attorney general, official,  
19   or agency of the State involved shall provide to the

1 Commission, the CAC, and any players associations  
2 certified by the CAC-

3 (A) a written notice of such action or  
4 proceeding; and

5 (B) a copy of the complaint for such action  
6 or proceeding.

7 (2) CONTENTS OF NOTICE. The written notice  
8 required by paragraph (1) shall include-

9 (A) the identity of the parties;

10 (B) a description of the alleged facts  
11 underlying the action or proceeding; and

12 (C) an assessment as to whether there is a  
13 need to coordinate the prosecution of the action or  
14 proceeding so as not to interfere with any action or  
15 proceeding undertaken by the CAC or a Federal  
16 agency.

17 (3) CAC RESPONSE. On receiving notice under  
18 this subsection of an action or proceeding under this  
19 subsection, the CAC shall, upon approval of the  
20 Commission, have the right-



1 (A) to intervene in the action or  
2 proceeding;

3 (B) upon so intervening-

4 (i) to remove the action or  
5 proceeding to the appropriate United States  
6 Federal district court, if the action or  
7 proceeding was not originally brought there;  
8 and

9 (ii) to be heard on all matters arising  
10 in the action or proceeding; and

11 (C) to appeal any order or judgment, to the  
12 same extent as any other party in the proceeding.

13 (c) REGULATIONS. Upon approval of the Commission,  
14 the CAC shall prescribe regulations to implement this section  
15 and, from time to time, provide guidance to further coordinate  
16 actions with State attorneys general and other regulators.

17 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION. Nothing in this section  
18 may be construed as altering, limiting, or affecting the authority  
19 of a State attorney general or any other regulatory or enforcement

1 agency or authority to bring an action or other regulatory  
2 proceeding arising solely under the law in effect in that State.

3 **SEC. 9. ROLE OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC**  
4 **ASSOCIATIONS.**

5 An intercollegiate athletic association may-

6 (1) establish titles to enforce the provisions of  
7 this Act and the standards issued under section 12(b)(2); and

8 (2) enforce such rules, including by, depending  
9 on the severity of the violation-

10 (A) declaring ineligible for college athlete  
11 competition a college athlete who violates an  
12 established collective bargaining agreement; and

13 (B) suspending or permanently removing  
14 from involvement in intercollegiate athletics any  
15 athletic personnel or volunteer who violate this Act.

16 **SEC. 10. REPORTING.**

17 (a) BIENNIAL REPORT. Not later than 180 days after the  
18 date of the enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the  
19 head of each intercollegiate athletic association shall submit to  
20 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the

1 Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the  
2 House of Representatives a report that includes-

3 (1) a summary of the systemic issues faced by the  
4 intercollegiate athletic association relating to compliance  
5 with this Act;

6 (2) a summary of the trends that are developing  
7 among institutions of higher education, conferences, and  
8 intercollegiate athletic associations in response to the  
9 prohibitions under this Act; and

10 (3) recommendations for improvements to inter-  
11 collegiate athletics that would improve the health, safety,  
12 and educational opportunities of college athletes.

13 (b) INVESTIGATION AND REPORT. Not later than 5 years  
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 5 years  
15 thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall-

16 (1) investigate to assess compliance with this  
17 Act; and

18 (2) submit to Congress a report that includes-

19 (A) a summary of the investigation con-  
20 ducted under paragraph (1); and

1 (B) recommendations for improvements to  
2 intercollegiate athletics that would improve the  
3 health, safety, and educational opportunities of  
4 college athletes.

5 **SEC. 11. ROLE OF PLAYERS ASSOCIATIONS**

6 Any players association certified by the CAC may -

7 (1) establish titles to enforce the provisions of  
8 this Act and the standards issued under section 7(b)(2) in  
9 consultant with the CAC; and

10 (2) draft and negotiate such CAC rules, including  
11 by, depending on the severity of the violation in consultant  
12 with the CAC-

13 (A) declaring ineligible for college athlete  
14 competition a college athlete in violation of any  
15 established collective bargaining agreement(s); and

16 (B) suspending or permanently removing  
17 from involvement in intercollegiate athletics any  
18 athletic personnel or volunteer who violate this Act.

1   **SEC. 12. REPORTING.**

2           (a)    BIENNIAL REPORT. Not later than 180 days after the  
3   date of the enactment of this Act, and biennially thereafter,  
4   certified players associations shall submit to the Committee on  
5   Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Judiciary, and Health,  
6   Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee  
7   on Energy and Commerce, Judiciary, and Education and the  
8   Workforce of the House of Representatives a report that  
9   includes-

10                (2)    a summary of the systemic issues faced by the  
11           players association and college athletes relating to  
12           compliance with this Act;

13                (3)    recommendations for improvements to inter-  
14           collegiate athletics that would improve the health, safety,  
15           and educational opportunities of college athletes.

16           (b)    INVESTIGATION AND REPORT. Not later than 5 years  
17   after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 5 years  
18   thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall-

19                (4)    conduct an investigation to assess  
20           compliance with this Act; and

- 1                   (5)     submit to Congress a report that includes-
- 2                             (A)    a summary of the investigation con-
- 3                             ducted under paragraph (1); and
- 4                             (B)    recommendations for improvements to
- 5                             intercollegiate athletics that would improve the
- 6                             health, safety, and educational opportunities of
- 7                             college athletes.

8     **SEC. 13. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ON OLYMPIC**

9                             **SPORTS.**

- 10                   (1)     Not later than 1 year after the final order is
- 11                             issued in the House Settlement, institutions that opt into
- 12                             revenue sharing, shall report to the Department of Education
- 13                             the number of roster spots for each of their varsity Olympic
- 14                             Sports for the previous and current academic year starting
- 15                             in academic year 2025-2026 and annually for each academic
- 16                             year thereafter.

17     **SEC. 14. GAO STUDY ON OLYMPIC SPORTS.**

- 18                   (1)     Not later than 2 years after the final order is
- 19                             issued in the House Settlement, the Comptroller General of
- 20                             the United States shall complete a study that assesses the

1 impact of the House Settlement on Olympic Sports, studies  
2 international models of national funding for Olympic  
3 Sports, and provides recommendations for federal support  
4 of the Committee given the unique nature of Olympic Sports  
5 and intercollegiate athletics in the United States. The study  
6 shall include:

7 (A) A survey of international models of  
8 national support for Olympic sports with a  
9 particular focus on international models of national  
10 support for Olympic sports in coordination with an  
11 existing system of intercollegiate athletics that  
12 include Olympic Sports;

13 (B) The projected scale and magnitude of  
14 any potential federal support for Olympic Sports in  
15 the United States given the historic levels of private  
16 and/or philanthropic support to the Committee and  
17 Olympic Sports undertaken at United States  
18 institutions of higher education;

19 (C) The coordination between the  
20 Committee, players associations, the CAC,

1 intercollegiate athletic associations or other similar  
2 bodies that would be required in the development  
3 and cultivation of Olympic sports at institutions of  
4 higher education;

5 (D) A description of any potential changes  
6 in the oversight and governance structure of the  
7 Committee if federal support were provided to the  
8 Committee, including recommendations for the  
9 incorporation of the Committee, players  
10 associations, the CAC, intercollegiate athletic  
11 associations, or other similar bodies into the  
12 Committee;

13 (E) An analysis of the reported trends in  
14 roster sizes of Olympic Sports with a focus on  
15 Division I athletic programs that opt into revenue  
16 sharing pursuant to the House Settlement; and,

17 (F) Report Recommendations. The  
18 Comptroller General of the United States shall  
19 submit a report to the Committee on Energy and  
20 Commerce of the House of Representatives and the



1                   Committee    on   Commerce,   Science,   and  
2                   Transportation of the Senate on the results of such  
3                   study.

4   **SEC. 15. ANTITRUST EXEMPTION.**

5                   (1)   An   institution   of   higher   education,  
6                   intercollegiate athletic association, or conference shall not  
7                   be in violation of any law or regulation, and shall not be  
8                   subject to any manner of claim or cause of action, whether  
9                   class, individual or otherwise, or any liabilities  
10                  whatsoever, including under any Federal or State law  
11                  for—

12                         (A)   the adoption of, agreement to,  
13                         enforcement of, or compliance with any rule or  
14                         bylaw of an intercollegiate athletic association,  
15                         conference, or institution that limited or prohibited  
16                         a college athlete from receiving compensation in  
17                         connection with having entered into an endorsement  
18                         contract with a third party;

1   **SEC. 16. PREEMPTION OF STATE NAME, IMAGE,**  
2                           **AND LIKENESS LAWS AND**  
3                           **REGULATIONS.**

4           No State or political subdivision of a State may establish  
5   or continue in effect any law or regulation that governs or  
6   regulates-

7           (1)     the freedom of a college athlete to transfer  
8           from one institution of higher education to another  
9           institution of higher education;

10          (2)     the commercial use of, and the provision of  
11          covered compensation for such use of, the name, image, or  
12          likeness of a college athlete;

13          (3)     the certification of athlete representatives  
14          associated with intercollegiate athletics; or

15          (4)     Any other matters governed by this Act.

16   **SEC. 17. SEVERABILITY.**

17          If any provision of this Act or the application of such  
18   provision to any person or circumstance is held to be  
19   unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, and the application

- 1 of the provision to any other person or circumstance, shall not be
- 2 affected





## **SECTION 1 – SHORT TITLE**

**Section 1.1.** The “Save College Athletics Act of 2025.”

## **SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS**

**Section 2.1. Agency Contract.** The contract which authorizes a person to be an agent for a college athlete.

**Section 2.2. Athlete Representative.** A person or entity who enters an agency contract with an athlete to be their agent for financial gain by way of their ability or reputation, which includes certified players association; but not a person or entity that has a familial relationship, professional sports team, or an attorney.

**Section 2.3. CAC.** The Act creates the College Athletics Corporation – a new, collaborative entity comprised of current athletes, intercollegiate athletic associations, conferences, and higher education administrators to develop rules for implementing the Act, and to investigate potential violations of the Act under the oversight of a government agency of Congress’ choosing.

**Section 2.4. College Athlete.** An athlete enrolled at 2- or 4-year college who plays college sports.

**Section 2.5. College Athletic Competition.** Any college varsity game, meet, or other competition between two schools.

**Section 2.6. College Athletic Event.** Any event, game, media day, banquet, fundraiser, etc., organized or authorized by an intercollegiate athletics department at a college or intercollegiate athletic association; and includes the travel to and from these events.

**Section 2.7. Commission.** A government agency of Congress’ choosing.

**Section 2.8. Committee.** U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

**Section 2.9. Conference.** Any entity that has 2 or more college or universities as members and sets rules for college athletics or arranges championships.

**Section 2.10. Cost of Attendance.** The cost of attendance means the same as section 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and will be calculated with the same standards, policies, and procedures the same for all students.

**Section 2.11. Covered Compensation.** Any form of remuneration paid to a college athlete by a third party; but not, grants-in-aid, government-related education grants, health insurance and care, disability and loss of value insurance, career related services and support, and regular job wages.

**Section 2.12. Endorsement Contract.** Establishing a definition for what constitutes an “endorsement contract” for the purposes of the Act.



**Section 2.13. Former College Athlete.** A college athlete who is no longer eligible to compete in college athletics.

**Section 2.14. Grant in Aid.** Financial assistance provided by an institution for a student's education (room, board, etc.), which does not exceed the cost of attendance, and does not include compensation for athletes.

**Section 2.15. Image.** A photograph, video, or computer-generated representation identifying or linked to a college athlete.

**Section 2.16. Intercollegiate Athletic Association.** Any group, including the NCAA, that governs intercollegiate athletics and engages in commerce in any industry or activity affecting commerce.

**Section 2.17. Institution of Higher Education.** Defined under Section 101 the *Higher Education Act of 1965*, including affiliates operating college athletics departments.

**Section 2.18. Likeness.** Identifiable features along with a college athlete's jersey number, such as their school colors or logo; voice or catchphrase; or some other association that distinguishes the athlete.

**Section 2.19. Name.** A combination of first and last names, last name, or unique nickname identifying a college athlete.

**Section 2.20. Players Association.** An independent nonprofit that represents at least 4,000 college athletes, which does not have a relationship with any intercollegiate athletic association and complies guidance to be certified by the CAC.

**Section 2.21. Third Party.** An individual or entity not affiliated with an institution of higher education, conference, or national athletic association.

**Section 2.22. Unaffiliated.** Two or more individuals or entities that do not share operations, management, labor relations, common ownership, or financial control.

### **SECTION 3 – NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS**

**Section 3.1.** Establishing a right of college athletes to enter into endorsement contracts with third parties and the inability of institutions of higher education, conferences, or intercollegiate athletic associations to prohibit their participation in collegiate athletic events and competitions for having done so.

### **SECTION 4 – SPECIAL NON-EMPLOYEE STATUS FOR SELECT COLLEGE ATHLETES**

**Section 4.1. Definitions.** Section 203 of the *Fair Labor Standards Act* is amended to create a limited class of Division I athletes ("Special Athlete Non-Employee") receiving direct compensation under the *House v. NCAA* that would be allowed to collectively bargain pursuant to the proposed amendments of the *National Labor Relations Act* set forth in Section 5.



**Section 4.2. Exemptions.** Section 213 of the *Fair Labor Standards Act* (FLSA) is amended to state that Sections 206 (governing, *inter alia*, minimum wage requirements) and 207 (regulating overtime) of FLSA **do not** apply to “Special Athlete Non-Employees” designated by Section 4.1. Compensation and a broad range of other matters that Special Athlete Non-Employees would collectively bargain for – e.g. wages, compensation, educational benefits, working conditions, protections, support, training, travel, injury management, discipline and grievances, etc. – are outlined in Section 5.

**Section 4.3. Recognition of Players Association.** Special Athlete Non-Employees can collectively choose to be represented by a players association, with only qualified Players Associations allowed to collectively bargain on their behalf.

## **SECTION 5 – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS FOR COLLEGE ATHLETES WITH SPECIAL ATHLETE NON-EMPLOYEE STATUS**

**Section 5.1. Definitions.** Section 2 of the *National Labor Relations Act* (NLRA) is amended to include public institutions of higher education as “employers.” This would allow Special Athlete Non-Employees that attend both public and private colleges and universities to collectively bargain.

**Section 5.2. Multiemployer Bargaining Unit.** Section 9(b) of the NLRA is amended to allow multiple institutions within an athletic conference or an athletic conference to form a “multiemployer bargaining unit” for Special Athlete Non-Employees, with consent from the representatives of the Special Athlete Non-Employees that would be part of the multiemployer bargaining unit.

**Section 5.3. Jurisdiction Related to Intercollegiate Sports.** Section 14(c)(1) of the Act is amended to give the National Labor Relations Board jurisdiction over collective bargaining matters for Special Athlete Non-Employees, including representation and labor disputes.

**Section 5.4. Prohibition on Waiver.** Special Athlete Non-Employees cannot waive or permit noncompliance with the Act or its amendments through any agreement or legal settlement.

**Section 5.5. Parity with Employee Members.** Collective bargaining for Special Athlete Non-Employees will provide the same protections as those granted to labor organizations and their employee-members under federal antitrust laws.

**Section 5.6. Mandatory Bargaining Subjects.** Establishes what must be bargained in a collective bargaining process between parties subject to this Act.

## **SECTION 6 – NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS FOR INTERNATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETES**

**Section 6.1. Definitions.** Section 101(a)(15)(F) of the *Immigration and Nationality Act* (INA) is amended to include student athletes who intend to enter name, image, likeness endorsement contracts for compensation under the definition of nonimmigrant students.



**Section 6.2. Employment Authorization.** Section 214(m) of the INA is amended to allow nonimmigrant student athletes who are eligible for employment authorization to engage in endorsement contracts and may receive oversight from their institution's school official designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security to ensure compliance.

## **SECTION 7 – ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE ATHLETICS CORPORATION**

**Section 7.1. Establishment.** Establishes the College Athletics Corporation.

**Section 7.2. Purposes.** The purposes of the CAC are to (1) serve as a clearinghouse for best practices and provide guidance on contracts; (2) establish and enforce rules and investigatory processes for violations of the rules; (3) develop and enforce standards for endorsement contracts; (4) establish a certification process for athlete representatives and Player Associations, ensuring compliance and revoking certifications if necessary; (5) recommend protections for athletes from unscrupulous representatives; (6) investigate disputes and ensure representatives act in athletes' best interests; (7) provide a process for resolving conflicts, including neutral arbitration; and (8) ensure compliance with contract rules.

**Section 7.3. Membership.** Eligibility is defined by the CAC's constitution and bylaws; and those documents must establish provisions that govern the CAC, and its conduct related to the reasonable representation of athletes, associations, administrators, experts, and unaffiliated individuals.

**Section 7.4. Board of Directors.** The CAC shall be governed by a 15-member board, with 7 being current and former college athletes, approved by a certified Player Association, 7 representing the interests of intercollegiate athletic associations, and a seat for any certified Player Association. At least one-third of the board must be current or former athletes, with 20% of athletes being current (still playing) or recent (last 10 years).

**Section 7.5. Powers.** The CAC will have the powers to (1) adopt a constitution and bylaws; (2) establish offices, enter contracts, accept gifts, manage property, borrow money, publish materials, manage membership, and any other actions necessary to manage the CAC; and (3) with Commission approval, have subpoena power.

**Section 7.6. Restrictions.** The CAC cannot engage in a business for profit or issue stock; and cannot endorse candidates or engage in political activities.

**Section 7.7. Headquarters, Principal Office, and Meetings.** The CAC will maintain its main office in the U.S. and can hold special meetings at chosen locations.

**Section 7.8. Service of Process.** The CAC must have a designated agent to receive legal notices. When the agent is served, it will qualify as the CAC being served.

**Section 7.9. Report.** The CAC must annually report to Senate and House committees on the number of disputes investigated and filed and provide recommendations for improving the endorsement contract process.





## **SECTION 8 – ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS BY STATES**

**Section 8.1. In General.** State attorneys general can bring civil actions in state or federal courts to enforce compliance with this Act and seek remedies if residents' interests are threatened or adversely affected.

**Section 8.2. Notice.** Before filing an action, the state must notify the Commission, the CAC, and any certified players associations with written notice and a copy of the complaint. The notice must include party identities, alleged facts, and an assessment of prosecution coordination needs. The CAC can intervene, remove the action to federal court, be heard on all matters, and appeal all orders or judgments.

**Section 8.3. Regulations.** The CAC, with Commission approval, will prescribe regulations and provide guidance to coordinate actions with state attorneys general and other regulators.

**Section 8.4. Rule of Construction.** This section does not alter or limit the authority of state attorneys general or other agencies to bring actions under state law.

## **SECTION 9 – ROLE OF NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATIONS**

**Section 9.1.** A national intercollegiate athletic association can establish titles to enforce this Act and its standards, enforce collective bargaining agreements by declaring athletes ineligible, and suspending or removing athletic personnel for violations.

## **SECTION 10 – REPORTING**

**Section 10.1. Biennial Report.** Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment and every two years after, the head of each national intercollegiate athletic association must report to Senate and House committees on systemic issues, trends, and recommendations for improving the health, safety, and educational opportunities of college athletes.

**Section 10.2. Investigation and Report.** Every five years, the Comptroller General will investigate compliance with the Act and report to Congress, summarizing the investigation and providing recommendations for improving intercollegiate athletics and the health, safety, and educational opportunities of college athletes.

## **SECTION 11 – ROLE OF PLAYERS ASSOCIATIONS**

**Section 11.1.** Certified Players Associations can establish titles and enforce Act provisions and standards with the CAC's consultation. They can also draft and negotiate rules, including declaring athletes ineligible for violations of collective bargaining agreements, and suspending or removing athletic personnel for violations.



## SECTION 12 – REPORTING

**Section 12.1. Biennial Report.** Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment and every two years after, Certified Players Associations must submit a biennial report to Senate and House Committees summarizing systemic issues, trends, and recommendations for improving the health, safety, and educational opportunities of college athletes.

**Section 12.2. Investigation and Report.** Every five years, the Comptroller General will investigate compliance with the Act and report to Congress, summarizing the investigation and providing recommendations for improving intercollegiate athletics.

## SECTION 13 – REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ON OLYMPIC SPORTS

**Section 13.1. Reporting Requirements on Olympic Sports.** Not later than 1 year after the final order is issued in the *House* Settlement, institutions participating in revenue sharing must report the number of roster spots for varsity Olympic sports annually to the Department of Education, for the previous and current academic year starting from the 2025-2026 academic year.

## SECTION 14 – GAO STUDY ON OLYMPIC SPORTS

**Section 14.1.** Not later than 2 years after the final order is issued in the *House* Settlement, the Comptroller General will complete a study within two years of the House Settlement's final order, assessing its impact on Olympic sports, international funding models, and providing federal support recommendations. The study shall:

- (A) Survey international models of national support for Olympic sports, focusing on coordination with intercollegiate athletics.
- (B) Project the scale and magnitude of potential federal support for Olympic sports in the U.S., considering historic private and philanthropic support.
- (C) Examine the required coordination between various bodies for developing Olympic sports at higher education institutions.
- (D) Describe potential changes in the oversight and governance structure if federal support is provided, including recommendations for incorporating relevant bodies.
- (E) Analyze trends in roster sizes of Olympic sports, focusing on Division I programs opting into revenue sharing.
- (F) **Report Recommendations.** Submit a report with study results and recommendations to relevant Congressional committees.



## **SECTION 15 – ANTITRUST EXEMPTION**

**Section 15.1.** Institutions, interstate intercollegiate athletic associations, or conferences are not liable under any state or federal law for adopting, agreeing to, enforcing, or complying with rules or bylaws of an interstate intercollegiate athletic association that limits or prohibits student athletes from receiving compensation. This includes compensation from the association, conference, institution, or third parties.

## **SECTION 16 – PREEMPTION OF STATE NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

**Section 16.1. Preemption of State Name, Image, and Likeness Laws and Regulations.** Neither states nor a political subdivision of a state can regulate (1) athlete transfers, (2) NIL compensation, (3) certification of athlete representatives, or (4) any other matters governed by the act.

## **SECTION 17 – SEVERABILITY**

**Section 17.1.** If any part of the Act is found unconstitutional, the rest of the act remains effective.