

National College Players Association (NCPA) PO Box 6917 Norco, CA 92860

July 10, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis Chairman Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky Ranking Member Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

## RE: Opposition to The SCORE Act

Dear Chairmen Guthrie and Bilirakis, Ranking Members Pallone and Schakowsky, and Members of the Subcommittee:

The National College Players Association (NCPA) strongly opposes the SCORE Act and urges every member of the subcommittee to vote NO on this legislation.

Contrary to its name, the SCORE Act does not advance the rights or benefits of college athletes. Instead, it rolls back key protections that exist under state NIL laws and antitrust statutes, weakening the position of athletes and further empowering institutions that have long failed to prioritize athlete safety, fairness, and equity.

This legislation would allow the NCAA, conferences, and universities to continue exposing athletes to serious injury, sexual abuse, and exploitative practices without accountability. It will impose economic harm on FBS football and Division I basketball players, the majority of whom are Black, by stripping them billions of dollars in compensation.

The SCORE Act is an unjust giveaway that shields the NCAA and its members from antitrust liability and preempts state laws that ensure athlete freedoms. Below are specific concerns with the bill:

- Fails to establish broad-based safety and health protections for athletes.
- Strips athletes of equal rights under antitrust and labor law.
- Imposes a low athlete compensation cap of 22% of revenue—less than half of what pro athletes receive through unions.
- Provides no enforcement mechanism for violations of athlete compensation rules.
- Shifts approximately \$2 billion annually in NIL pay from athletes to universities by dismantling NIL collectives.
- Does not prevent the NCAA or conferences from eliminating roster spots or Olympic sports.
- Fails to enforce Title IX transparency or compliance.
- Grants the NCAA power to restrict athlete transfer rights—even in cases of abuse.
- Permits schools to act as athlete agents under House v. NCAA, creating major conflicts of interest.
- Lacks clarity on application in scenarios involving private equity control of athletic programs.
- Offers no real gain in compensation or benefits, as existing provisions are already protected under state laws.
- Provides no legal recourse for athletes harmed by institutional or NCAA misconduct.

Congress must ensure that any federal legislation includes broad-based reform that addresses athlete safety, health coverage, participation opportunities, and fair treatment under the law.

The NCPA urges the subcommittee to reject the SCORE Act and instead support meaningful protections and freedoms for college athletes.

Sincerely,

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NCPA Executive Director

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cc:

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis

The Honorable Janelle Bynum

The Honorable Shomari Figures

The Honorable Brett Guthrie

The Honorable Tim Walberg

The Honorable Jim Jordan

The Honorable Lisa McClain

The Honorable Scott Fitzgerald

The Honorable Russell Fry