

JOHN THUNE, SOUTH DAKOTA  
 ROGER F. WICKER, MISSISSIPPI  
 DEB FISCHER, NEBRASKA  
 JERRY MORAN, KANSAS  
 DAN SULLIVAN, ALASKA  
 MARSHA BLACKBURN, TENNESSEE  
 TODD YOUNG, INDIANA  
 TED BUIZO, NORTH CAROLINA  
 ERIC SCHMITT, MISSOURI  
 JOHN CURTIS, UTAH  
 BERNIE MORENO, OHIO  
 TIM SHEEHY, MONTANA  
 SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA  
 CYNTHIA M. LUMMIS, WYOMING

BRAD GRANTZ, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR  
 LILA HARPER HELMS, DEMOCRATIC STAFF DIRECTOR

MARIA CANTWELL, WASHINGTON  
 AMY KLOBUCHAR, MINNESOTA  
 BRIAN SCHATZ, HAWAII  
 EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS  
 GARY C. PETERS, MICHIGAN  
 TAMMY BALDWIN, WISCONSIN  
 TAMMY DUCKWORTH, ILLINOIS  
 JACKY ROSEN, NEVADA  
 BEN RAY LUJAN, NEW MEXICO  
 JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, COLORADO  
 JOHN FETTERMAN, PENNSYLVANIA  
 ANDY KIM, NEW JERSEY  
 LISA BLUNT ROCHSTER, DELAWARE

## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
 AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

WEBSITE: <https://commerce.senate.gov>

September 10, 2025

Dear Commerce Committee Members:

Last month, I sent a [letter](#) to presidents, chancellors, and regents of Division I schools explaining how the SCORE Act would entrench a college sports arms race that rewards Power Conferences at the expense of smaller schools and conferences, student athletes, and America's future Olympic competitiveness.

House leadership has said they plan to bring up the SCORE Act for a floor vote next week.

The attached report provides more detailed data on the TV revenue inequities facing smaller schools and conferences. Specifically, the report found:

- **A growing revenue gap.** The average school in a Power Conference received 12 times more TV revenue than schools competing in other Division I conferences. A revenue gap that has already increased 584% from 2002-2023.
- **Declining Collegiate Competitiveness.** Schools outside of the Power Conferences are increasingly unable to compete for championships and postseason games and could be forced to cut non-revenue generating sports or impose fees on students to subsidize sports.
- **Termination of Olympic sports.** Since May of 2024, 41 Olympic sports programs have been cut across Division I schools, impacting at least 1,000 student athletes. Two-thirds of U.S. Olympic athletes at the 2024 Paris Games participated in NCAA varsity sports.

The college sports landscape is complicated and evolving quickly, but it does not serve the diverse academic institutions in each of our states, or the passionate fans that root for their favorite teams, to lock in a distorted system that effectively allows a few powerhouse schools to start every game with a few points already on the board in their favor.

I look forward to working with you to develop a more durable growth model for college athletics that will provide opportunities and reward all student athletes, increase audiences and revenues for college sports, and preserve women's and Olympic sports.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell  
 Ranking Member