



ACCOMPLISH
GREATNESS

May 31, 2026

The Honorable Ted Cruz
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Cruz and Cantwell:

I write to express great appreciation for your introduction of the bipartisan Protect College Sports Act of 2026. Your comprehensive approach in proposing solutions to the most pressing issues facing college sports is deserving of praise.

College sports means a great deal to the 18 institutions in the ACC and the students and communities they serve. While we continue to address the needs of our student-athletes through comprehensive reform, only Congress can provide solutions that truly stabilize a system that changes the lives of so many participants through leadership, mentorship and the attainment of lifelong earning potential through academic degrees from the world's leading institutions of higher education.

As my team and I digest all aspects of this comprehensive bill and review the same with the ACC membership, we look forward to continued collaboration with you, your colleagues and other stakeholders as we together strengthen college sports for future generations.

Thank you for your dedicated work and continued commitment to intercollegiate athletics and to higher education.

Best regards,

James J. Phillips, PhD
Commissioner
Atlantic Coast Conference

