



Intercollegiate Athletics

Keene State College
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June 16, 2026

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen United States Senate

The Honorable Maggie Hassan United States Senate

**The Honorable Ted Cruz Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
United States Senate**

**The Honorable Maria Cantwell Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation United States Senate**

Dear Senators Shaheen, Hassan, Cruz, and Cantwell:

As Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation at Keene State College, I write to express my strong support for the Protect College Sports Act and to encourage its advancement as an important step toward preserving educationally based intercollegiate athletics throughout the United States.

Keene State College sponsors 22 NCAA varsity sports and serves hundreds of student-athletes each year. As a public Division III institution in New Hampshire, our athletics program is rooted in education, opportunity, and student development. Unlike Division I and Division II institutions, Division III colleges do not award athletic scholarships, emphasizing participation, personal growth, and the integration of athletics within the overall educational experience. Participation in athletics provides our students with invaluable opportunities to develop leadership, teamwork, discipline, resilience, and community engagement while enhancing academic success and overall student well-being.

The current environment facing college athletics is increasingly complex and uncertain. While many discussions surrounding intercollegiate athletics focus on the largest Division I programs, the consequences of legal and regulatory uncertainty extend to institutions at every level. For colleges like Keene State, maintaining broad-based athletic opportunities requires careful stewardship of limited resources and a stable regulatory framework that recognizes the educational mission of college sports.

The Protect College Sports Act represents an important effort to establish that stability. By providing clear national standards and addressing the challenges created by an increasingly fragmented landscape, the legislation would help colleges and universities continue to offer meaningful participation opportunities for student-athletes while preserving the integrity of educationally based athletics.

In New Hampshire, college athletics contributes significantly to campus life and to the communities we serve. Keene State attracts student-athletes from New Hampshire and across the region, bringing talented students to our state and enhancing the educational experience for all members of our campus community. Our student-athletes are leaders in the classroom, volunteers in the community, and ambassadors for both our institution and the State of New Hampshire. The ability to sustain a broad range of athletic opportunities is essential not only to student success but also to enrollment, retention, and community engagement. Policies that help preserve these opportunities have a direct impact on students, families, and communities throughout New Hampshire and beyond.

As Congress considers the future of intercollegiate athletics, it is essential that federal legislation recognizes the diversity of institutions and competitive divisions that make up the collegiate athletics

landscape. Any national solution should preserve opportunities for all student-athletes, not just those competing at the highest levels of Division I athletics. The Protect College Sports Act would help ensure that institutions can continue to provide broad-based participation opportunities while maintaining a focus on education, student development, and competitive equity.

On behalf of the student-athletes, coaches, staff, alumni, and supporters of Keene State College Athletics, I respectfully urge your support for the Protect College Sports Act. Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to preserving opportunities for current and future generations of college student-athletes.

Sincerely,
Martin Testo M.Ed.
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation
Keene State College

Little East Conference

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Castleton*