U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, SCIENCE & TRANSPORTATION

Support for the Protect College Sports Act of 2026

Olympic Sports Organizations

United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC)
National Governing Body Council (NGBC)
Team USA Athletes' Commission (AC)

Other National Groups

National Association of Basketball Coaches
American Football Coaches Association
The National Football League
The National Football League Players Association
The National Basketball Association
The National Basketball Players Association
Major League Baseball
Members of the President's Roundtable on Fixing College Sports
Presidents, Chancellors, Current and Former Board Chairs, and Governing Board Members of Colleges and Universities Across the United States

College Conferences

Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC)
American Conference
Big 12
Big East Conference
Big Sky Conference
The Big West Conference
Conference USA
Horizon League
Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC)
Mid-American Conference
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Missouri Valley Conference
Mountain West Conference
Ohio Valley Conference
Pac-12 Conference
Patriot League
The Summit League
Sunbelt Conference
Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)
Western Athletic Conference
West Coast Conference

Plus 27 individual colleges or universities – full list below

What They're Saying

United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), National Governing Body Council (NGBC), Team USA Athletes' Commission (AC)
"The revised version of the Protect College Sports Act ensures that higher-resourced NCAA Division I athletic departments — those with annual revenues exceeding $80 million — will maintain at least the same number of roster spots and scholarship opportunities for women's and men's Olympic sports as in the 2024–2025 academic year. We welcome that the agreement provides reasonable flexibility, including transitional protections for mid-sized institutions, while preserving overall participation opportunities."

American Conference Student-Athlete Advocacy Committee (SAAC)
"College athletics must prioritize educational opportunities and the health and safety of student-athletes. Student-athletes benefit from scholarships, academic support services, medical care, nutrition programs, mental health resources, tutoring, career development programs, and other benefits provided through intercollegiate athletics. Federal legislation should preserve and strengthen these educational benefits to ensure future generations continue to have access to higher education opportunities and careers that may only be accessible to them by participating in college athletics."

The National Football League Players Association, **The National Basketball Players Association**
"The National Football League Players Association (NFLPA) and National Basketball Players Association (NBPA) appreciate the bipartisan effort that has gone into developing the Protect College Sports Act from Senators Cruz, Cantwell, Schmitt, and Coons, and believe that the bill includes several important provisions designed to protect college athletes, including guaranteeing NIL rights and providing medical and healthcare benefits. We encourage continued meaningful stakeholder engagement and negotiations to further strengthen the bill as it moves through Congress to ensure college athletes are protected and empowered."

National Association of Basketball Coaches
"After four years of uncertainty, lawsuits, constant rule changes, and unintended consequences, college athletics needs leadership. While much of the public conversation focuses on financial issues, our greatest concerns are centered on the student-athletes themselves. Throughout our careers, we have always believed that our responsibility is to protect young people, help them grow, and prepare them for success long after their playing careers are over. [W]e must remember that approximately 99 percent of college athletes will never play professional sports. College athletics must continue to be centered on education. Any legislation should encourage academic progress, degree completion, and preparation for life after sports. We have an opportunity to create policies that help student athletes leave college with more than athletic memories; we can help them leave with a degree, a purpose, and a future."

The National Football League
"By utilizing proven models like the voluntary pooling of media rights under the Sports Broadcasting Act, which supports broad, fan-friendly distribution of NFL games, this legislation will support college athletics and ensure fans will be able to access their favorite games across today's changing media landscape."

University of Notre Dame
"College athletics remains one of our nation's greatest treasures, providing unparalleled opportunities for personal, academic, and athletic growth. We urge Congress to take advantage of this pivotal moment and pass bipartisan legislation that codifies these vital safeguards, holds bad-faith actors accountable and protects the integrity of the student-athlete experience."

American Football Coaches Association
"The rapid growth of financial opportunities has exposed significant regulatory gaps. One of those gaps is the lack of a comprehensive national framework governing who may represent college athletes in financial negotiations. This lack of uniform standards for "agents" creates opportunities for abuse and conflicts of interest, while making it more difficult to ensure that student-athletes receive responsible, knowledgeable guidance. Accordingly, we are encouraged by provisions in the legislation that seek to establish greater transparency and accountability for athlete representatives. We are particularly encouraged by the bill's requirement that an intercollegiate

athletic association establish and maintain a national database of registered agents. Providing athletes and families with a reliable, trustworthy source of information regarding who is authorized to represent student-athletes would be a meaningful step forward."

Washington State University
"The Protecting College Sports Act offers a meaningful path forward by establishing a consistent national framework for NIL and governance, improving protections for student-athletes, and introducing tools to enhance long-term financial sustainability across a broad range of institutions. These reforms are essential to ensuring that universities like WSU can continue to provide exceptional academic and athletic experiences for our students while maintaining competitive balance nationally."

University of Colorado Boulder
"The Protect College Sports Act helps protect the many Olympic and women's sport programs that are critical to giving thousands of student-athletes the opportunity to compete and learn the skills of teamwork, leadership, commitment, resilience, and dedication that will serve them the rest of their lives. These programs are core to our CU Boulder identity. We have produced 120 Olympians and protecting that legacy and the opportunities behind it is one of our deepest commitments. This legislation helps ensure that broad-based opportunity endures for the many student-athletes in non-revenue sports yet to come."

Syracuse University
"Without bold, bipartisan action that brings greater clarity and parity to the future of college athletics – such as what you have proposed in the Protect College Sports Act – Syracuse University's significant contributions to the collegiate athletic landscape are at risk. Only Congress can provide the comprehensive reform needed to stabilize an environment unsettled by increasing legal risk, a failing governance model, and ever-escalating costs of maintaining competitive parity. The legislation you have proposed addresses each of these issues for all of college sports, not just the largest schools, while providing an option to achieve a sustainable revenue model that helps preserve the many programs and opportunities that make college athletics in America so special."

Major League Baseball
"College baseball has undergone a remarkable transformation over the last several years and has become an increasingly important pathway for future professional baseball players. On issues such as player eligibility, The Protect College Sports Act will help to ensure its continued growth, which is good for all levels of the sport."

Seattle Seahawks
"The Seattle Seahawks stand with Senator Maria Cantwell and the bipartisan proponents of the Protect College Sports Act. Our focus on growing the game of football – ranging from youth to 12s everywhere – is fundamentally connected to the state of collegiate athletics. We appreciate the Congressional leadership pursuing a stable and broadly beneficial path for the many stakeholders tied to college sports."

NCAA President
"We must do all we can to safeguard the opportunities of this uniquely American system for the next generation of student-athletes. Every sports league needs rules, and there are certain challenges to NCAA rules that only Congress can address. The bipartisan Protect College Sports Act's sections bolstering eligibility, transfer and agent policies are needed now to deliver on that obligation."

The National Basketball Association

"We continue to support a strong college basketball ecosystem, one that is based on clear and reliable standards and that prioritizes both player development and fair competition. The Protect College Sports Act is a positive step and we look forward to continued engagement as the bill advances through the legislative process in the coming months."

Stanford University

"At Stanford, we believe deeply in the scholar-athlete model, and in preparing our student-athletes for successful lives of citizenship and leadership. The instability you are working to address threatens the academic foundations of college sports. This bill represents an important step toward stability."

Full Lists of Signees

National Association of Basketball Coaches

- John Calipari – Head Men's Basketball Coach, University of Arkansas
- Craig Robinson – Executive Director, NABC
- Tommy Amaker – Head Men's Basketball Coach, Harvard University
- John Calipari – Arkansas
- Tommy Amaker – Harvard
- Craig Robinson – NABC
- Mark Few – Gonzaga
- Jon Scheyer – Duke
- Bill Self – Kansas
- Dan Hurley – UConn
- Tom Izzo – Michigan State
- Shaka Smart – Marquette
- Penny Hardaway – Memphis
- Matt Painter – Purdue
- Ed Cooley – Georgetown
- Kelvin Sampson– Houston
- Frank Martin – UMass
- James Jones – Yale
- Rick Barnes – Tennessee
- Jamie Dixon – TCU
- Jai Lucas– Miami
- Jeff Capel – Pittsburgh
- Ritchie McKay– Liberty
- Tad Boyle– Colorado
- Anthony Grant– Dayton

American Football Coaches Association

- Clark Lea, Vanderbilt University
- Jim Catanzaro, Lake Forest College

- Bret Bielema, University of Illinois
- Steve Ryan, Morningside University
- Jason Simpson, University of Tennessee-Martin
- Alvin Parker, Virginia Union University
- Tony Elliott, University of Virginia
- Brent Venables, University of Oklahoma
- Jerheme Urban, Trinity University
- Jas Bains, Western Colorado University
- Jamey Chadwell, Liberty University
- Jeff Monken, Army West Point
- Lance Taylor, Western Michigan University
- Kalani Sitake, Brigham Young University
- Rhett Lashlee, SMU
- Joey McGuire, Texas Tech University
- Jason Eck, University of New Mexico
- Sean Lewis, San Diego State University
- Brent Vigen, Montana State University

Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC)

- Boston College
- Clemson University
- **Duke University**
- Florida State University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- **North Carolina State University**
- **Southern Methodist University**
- **Stanford University**
- **Syracuse University**
- University of California, Berkeley
- **University of Louisville**
- University of Miami
- **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Virginia
- **Virginia Tech**
- **Wake Forest University**

American Conference

- **East Carolina University**
- Florida Atlantic University
- **Rice University**

- Temple University
- Wichita State University
- **University of North Carolina at Charlotte**
- University of Memphis
- University of North Texas
- University of South Florida
- Tulane University
- University of Tulsa
- University of Alabama at Birmingham
- **University of Texas, San Antonio**
- United States Military Academy
- United States Naval Academy

Big 12

- **Arizona State University**
- **Baylor University**
- Brigham Young University
- Iowa State University
- **Kansas State University**
- Oklahoma State University
- **Texas Christian University**
- Texas Tech University
- University of Arizona
- University of Central Florida
- University of Cincinnati
- **University of Colorado Boulder**
- University of Houston
- University of Kansas
- University of Utah
- West Virginia University

Big East Conference

- Butler University
- University of Connecticut
- Creighton University
- DePaul University
- Georgetown University
- Marquette University
- Providence College
- St. John's University
- Seton Hall University
- Villanova University
- Xavier University

Big Sky Conference

- Eastern Washington University
- Idaho State University
- Montana State University
- Northern Arizona University
- Portland State University
- Southern Utah University
- University of Idaho
- University of Montana
- University of Northern Colorado
- Utah Tech University
- Weber State University

The Big West Conference

- California Polytechnic State University
- California State University, Bakersfield
- California State University, Fullerton
- California State University, Long Beach
- California State University, Northridge
- University of California, Davis (UC Davis)
- University of California, Irvine (UC Irvine)
- University of California, Riverside (UC Riverside)
- University of California, San Diego (UC San Diego)
- University of California, Santa Barbara (UC Santa Barbara)
- University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (Hawai‘i)

Conference USA

- Missouri State University
- University of Delaware
- **Florida International University**
- Jacksonville State University
- Kennesaw State University
- Liberty University
- Louisiana Tech University
- Middle Tennessee State University
- New Mexico State University
- Sam Houston State University
- Western Kentucky University
- **University of Texas, El Paso**

Horizon League

- Cleveland State University

- University of Detroit Mercy
- University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
- University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
- Indiana University, Indianapolis
- Northern Kentucky University
- Oakland University
- Purdue Fort Wayne
- Robert Morris University
- Wright State University
- Youngstown State University

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference

- Canisius College
- Fairfield University
- Iona College
- Manhattan College
- Merrimack College
- Marist College
- Niagara University
- Rider University
- Quinnipiac University
- Saint Peter's University
- Siena College
- Mount St. Mary's University
- Sacred Heart University

Mid-American Conference (MAC)

- University of Akron
- Ball State University
- Bowling Green State University
- University of Buffalo
- Central Michigan University
- Eastern Michigan University
- Kent State University
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- Miami University
- Northern Illinois University
- Ohio University
- University of Toledo
- Western Michigan University

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

- Coppin State University
- Delaware State University
- Howard University
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Morgan State University
- Norfolk State University
- North Carolina Central University
- South Carolina State University

Student-athletes of the Mid-American Conference (MAC)

- Sara Bower, Akron, Women's Soccer
- Tewabech Seerup, Akron, Women's Soccer
- Maci Hoskins, Ball State, Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
- Maya McDonald, Ball State, Women's Swim & Dive Mackenzie Krafcik, Bowling Green, Softball
- Bryce Weber, Bowling Green, Men's Cross Country/Track & Field
- Ava Kanj, Buffalo, Volleyball
- Lonnell Owens, Buffalo, Wrestling
- Paige Sayler, Central Michigan, Softball
- Gracie Merrick, Central Michigan, Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
- Mill Coleman, Eastern Michigan, Men's Cross Country/Track & Field
- Marley Helton, Eastern Michigan, Women's Lacrosse
- Ayden Bath, Kent State, Men's Track & Field
- Dani Fuertez, Kent State, Gymnastics
- Callen Powers, UMass, Baseball
- Rylee Davis, UMass, Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
- Caroline Kagy, Miami, Women's Track & Field
- Raegan Lantz, Miami, Volleyball
- Mia Scheulen, Ohio, Field Hockey
- Reece Savage, Ohio, Women's Track & Field
- Troy Sudbrook, Toledo, Baseball
- Olivia Gang, Toledo, Women's Cross Country/Track & Field
- JR Hays, Western Michigan, Football
- Ana Niles, Western Michigan, Softball

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference

- Coppin State
- Delaware State
- Howard University
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Morgan State
- Norfolk State

- North Carolina Central
- South Carolina State

Missouri Valley Conference

- Belmont University
- Bradley University
- Drake University
- University of Evansville
- Illinois State University
- Indiana State University
- Murray State University
- University of Northern Iowa
- Southern Illinois University
- University of Illinois Chicago
- Valparaiso University

Mountain West Conference

- Air Force
- Boise State
- Northern Illinois University
- Colorado College
- Grand Canyon University
- University of Hawai'i
- University of Nevada, Reno
- University of New Mexico
- San José State University
- UC Davis
- UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)
- University of Wyoming

Ohio Valley Conference

- Eastern Illinois University
- Lindenwood University
- Morehead State University
- University of Southern Indiana
- Tennessee State University
- Tennessee Technological University
- University of Tennessee at Martin
- Western Illinois University
- University of Arkansas at Little Rock
- Southeast Missouri State University
- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Pac-12

- Boise State University
- Colorado State University
- California State University
- Fresno State University
- Gonzaga University
- Oregon State University
- San Diego State University
- Texas State University
- Utah State University
- **Washington State University**

Patriot League

- American University
- Boston University
- Bucknell University
- Colgate University
- College of the Holy Cross
- Lafayette College
- Loyola University Maryland
- Lehigh University
- U.S. Military Academy
- U.S. Naval Academy

Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC)

- Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University
- Alabama State University
- Alcorn State University
- Bethune-Cookman University
- Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
- Grambling State University
- Jackson State University
- Mississippi Valley State University
- Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical University
- Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College
- **Texas Southern University**
- University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

The Summit League

- University of Denver
- University of Missouri-Kansas City
- University of North Dakota

- North Dakota State University
- University of Nebraska-Omaha
- Oral Roberts University
- University of St. Thomas
- University of South Dakota
- South Dakota State University

Sun Belt Conference

- **Appalachian State University**
- Arkansas State University
- Coastal Carolina University
- Georgia Southern University
- Georgia State University
- James Madison University
- Marshall University
- Old Dominion University
- Troy University
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- University of Louisiana at Monroe
- Louisiana Tech University
- University of South Alabama
- **University of Southern Mississippi**
- Texas State University

Western Athletic Conference

- Abilene Christian University
- California Baptist University
- Sam Houston State University
- Tarleton State University
- University of Texas at Arlington
- Utah Valley University
- Utah Tech University

West Coast Conference

- Loyola Marymount University
- University of Pacific
- Seattle University
- Pepperdine University
- University of Portland
- Saint Mary's College of California
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- Santa Clara University

University of Nebraska

- Jeffrey Gold – President

Keene State

- Martin Testo - Director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreation

University of Notre Dame

- Pete Bevaqua – Vice President and Director of Athletics

Members of the President's Roundtable on Fixing College Sports

- Randy Levine - President, New York Yankees
- Cody Campbell - Board Chairman, Texas Tech University System and Former Student Athlete
- Condoleezza Rice - Director, Hoover Institution, Former Secretary of State
- Nick Saban - 7 Time National Champion Coach and Former Student Athlete
- Gerry Cardinale - Founder, Managing Partner, RedBird Capital Partners
- Jay Clayton - U.S. Attorney Southern District of New York and Former Student Athlete
- Seth Levinson - Founder, Aces Sports Agency
- Jeramiah Dickey - Athletic Director, Boise State University
- Perry Gregg - Student Athlete, Notre Dame
- John Donahoe - Athletic Director, Stanford University
- Sarah Graves - Student Athlete, University of Texas
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- Jim Clements - Former President, Clemson University
- Doug Girod - President, Kansas University
- Lee Roberts - Chancellor, University of North Carolina
- Jack Swarbrick - Former Athletic Director, Notre Dame
- Sarah Hirshland - CEO, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
- Taylor Randall - President, University of Utah
- Brett Yormark - Commissioner, Big 12
- Jim Phillips - Commissioner, ACC
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- Jamie Pollard - Athletic Director, Iowa State University, and Former Student Athlete
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- John Currie - Athletic Director, Wake Forest University
- Matty Helfrich - Student Athlete, Georgetown University
- Jana Van Gytenbeek - Student Athlete, Baylor University
- Bryson DeChambeau - President, Sports Corp

- Marc Ganis - Former NHL General Manager, NHL Hall of Fame Member, Former Student Athlete
- Lou Lamoriello - President, RedBird Capital Partners
- Robert Klein - Commissioner, NBA, Trustee, Duke University
- Adam Silver - Senior Personal Counsel to President Trump
- Boris Epshteyn - Chairman, President's Council on Sports, Fitness & Nutrition, Former Student Athlete
- Ron DeSantis - Governor, The State of Florida and Former Student Athlete
- Urban Meyer - National Champion Coach and Former Student Athlete
- Steve Ross - Owner, Miami Dolphins
- Ryan Curry - Student Athlete, West Point
- Drayk Bowen - Student Athlete, Notre Dame
- Troy Sudbrook - Student Athlete, University of Toledo

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