



TIM PERNETTI
COMMISSIONER

June 1, 2026

The Honorable Ted Cruz
U.S. Senate
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
daniel_crumpler@cruz.senate.gov

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senate
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
senator_cantwell@cantwell.senate.gov

Dear Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of the American Conference, I am writing to express our sincere gratitude for the meaningful work that has been done to introduce the bipartisan Protect College Sports Act of 2026. We truly appreciate your determined leadership in listening and advancing sensible solutions and a legislative framework to address the challenges facing college sports today.

The American Conference supports the Protect College Sports Act of 2026 and sees this moment as an opportunity for our entire industry to come together to set forth a structured future. As a former student-athlete I am a product of the life-changing experiences that college sports provide. It is our responsibility to establish a framework so that all student-athletes will have the opportunity to earn degrees from our world-class institutions, become leaders, and win championships.

We appreciate the consistent engagement with both of you and your colleagues in this effort and look forward to continuing to work together to review and refine the bill as it advances through the Senate process. We are confident that through continued collaboration with you, your colleagues and leaders in our industry, that we can establish a framework for certainty and stability for all of college sports that protects student-athletes and insures a strong future.

College sports galvanize fans, it brings people together and it evokes passion and belief in something bigger than any individual. It belongs to all of us. The Protect College Sports Act of 2026 will help to preserve and strengthen something that we love and is truly meaningful to our country.

Warm regards,

Tim Perneti
Commissioner
American Conference

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