



June 10, 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 Senator Cruz and Senator Cantwell:

Greetings from the Mid-American Conference!

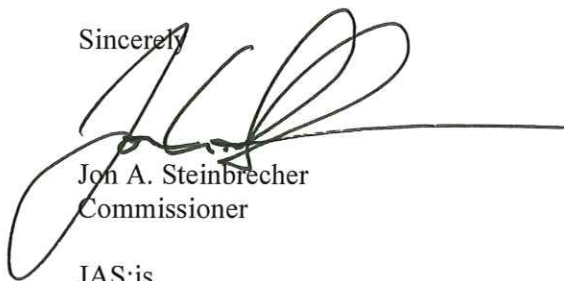
I want to thank you for your efforts in drafting the Protect College Sports Act of 2026. Your bipartisan approach in addressing an array of challenges confronting intercollegiate athletics at the NCAA Division I level is appreciated.

As the ruling from the state court in Texas on the sports wagering issue has amplified, without assistance from Congress, we will continue to find ourselves unable to appropriately govern and manage our athletics programs which has the potential to threaten the integrity and viability of these programs. I applaud the work that has gone into developing a bill that seeks to combine student-athlete protection with sensible governance mechanisms and oversight. As a former college scholar athlete, I am fully cognizant of what participation did for my development and want to do everything possible to ensure similar opportunities for future generations.

I, along with my staff and our 12 member institutions, are closely following the work on this bill. We look forward to working with you to ensure the future sustainability of intercollegiate athletics as we seek ways to safeguard positive opportunities for the more than 4,500 scholar athletes participating in the Mid-American Conference and scores more across the country!

Thank you for your continued efforts. Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Jon A. Steinbrecher
Commissioner

JAS:js