



June 2, 2026

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

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

Chairman Cruz and Ranking Member Cantwell,

I am writing to express strong and enthusiastic support for the Protect College Sports Act of 2026 and thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

As you may be aware, Syracuse University is the only New York State university competing at the Power 4 level. As a result, Syracuse Athletics is uniquely positioned as New York's flagship intercollegiate athletics brand, generating substantial economic impact and job creation throughout the state while providing a nationally visible platform that connects Upstate New York with the country's leading media, business, and financial center in New York City. Intercollegiate athletics are also an essential part of our educational mission, providing nearly 600 student-athletes each year with unparalleled opportunities for academic achievement, leadership development, social mobility, and lifelong success.

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.

The stakes for student athletes and the future of college sports have never been higher, and finding a meaningful solution has never been more urgent. We want to partner with you and your colleagues to keep the educational mission of college sports at the forefront.

I am available to you and your staff at any time to discuss these matters in greater detail.

J. Michael Haynie, PhD
Chancellor and President

CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT

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