October 26, 2026

Dear Members of the Ohio Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of Ohio's public universities, we appreciate your leadership and continued interest in higher education, student-athletes, and the future of college sports. As the House reconvenes in November, we strongly encourage you to support the bipartisan Protect College Sports Act.

Together, our institutions serve more than 300,000 students, sponsor over 200 varsity sports programs, and support more than 5,000 student-athletes. For our students, intercollegiate athletics provides a direct pathway to higher education, opening doors that shape their lives long after their playing careers end. Preserving this collegiate model means preserving broad-based educational opportunity.

In these uncertain times, Congress has a unique opportunity to provide clarity and stability. While the House v. NCAA settlement represents progress, it cannot resolve the broader legal framework. Without a national standard, institutions and student-athletes remain trapped in an unsustainable landscape of conflicting state laws, inconsistent court rulings, and escalating litigation.

The Protect College Sports Act, which passed the U.S. Senate by an overwhelming 77-22 vote, addresses these systemic challenges by establishing a uniform national NIL framework, providing antitrust protections, and codifying health, safety, and academic safeguards. We particularly appreciate the bill's sponsors addressing key institutional priorities in the final bill, such as codifying the revenue cap, preventing cap circumvention, and creating a retention fund to safeguard Olympic and non-revenue sports.

Court settlements cannot create a national regulatory system, states cannot solve a national problem individually, and colleges cannot sustain broad-based athletic opportunities amid mounting costs and legal uncertainty. Only federal legislation can deliver lasting stability. It is critical for the House to consider and adopt the Protect College Sports Act during the remainder of the 119th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration and continued partnership.

Sincerely,

Ravi V. Bellamkonda, PhD
President
The Ohio State University

Neville G. Pinto, PhD
President
University of Cincinnati

Rodney K. Rogers, PhD
President
Bowling Green State University

Morakinyo A.O. Kuti, PhD
President
Central State University



Laura J. Bloomberg, PhD
President
Cleveland State University



Todd Diacon, PhD
President
Kent State University



Gregory P. Crawford, PhD
President
Miami University



Lori Stewart Gonzalez, PhD
President
Ohio University



Eric Andrew Braun, PhD
President
Shawnee State University



Robert J. (R.J.) Nemer
President
The University of Akron



James Paul Holloway, PhD
President
The University of Toledo



Susan Edwards, PhD
President
Wright State University



Bill Johnson
President
Youngstown State University