

S.L.C. 

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**S. 4668**

To protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. SCHMITT)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Protect College Sports Act of 2026”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

**TITLE I—PROTECTIONS OF STUDENT ATHLETES AND FAIR  
COMPETITION**

Sec. 100. Definitions.

Sec. 101. Name, image, and likeness protections.

- Sec. 102. Modifications to Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act.
- Sec. 103. Agent registry requirements for intercollegiate athletic associations.
- Sec. 104. Disclosures and establishment of name, image, and likeness agreement database.
- Sec. 105. Academic protections.
- Sec. 106. Medical coverage requirements.
- Sec. 107. Health, wellness, and safety standards.
- Sec. 108. Office of the Student Athlete Ombudsman.
- Sec. 109. Comparable standards for access to facilities, services, and events.
- Sec. 110. Rules governing certain mid-season coaching transitions.
- Sec. 111. Student athlete representation on intercollegiate athletic association governing boards.
- Sec. 112. Transfer protections.
- Sec. 113. Eligibility to participate in intercollegiate sports.
- Sec. 114. Prohibited compensation and agreements.
- Sec. 115. Extension of the revenue share cap.
- Sec. 116. Commission on the Future of College Athletics.
- Sec. 117. Recruitment and tampering.
- Sec. 118. Limitation on liability.
- Sec. 119. Private right of action.
- Sec. 120. Whistleblower protection.
- Sec. 121. Relationship to existing law.
- Sec. 122. Neutrality on employee or non-employee status.
- Sec. 123. Applicability.
- Sec. 124. Severability.
- Sec. 125. Protection of women's sports and Olympic sports.

#### TITLE II—SPORTS BROADCASTING

- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. Limitation on liability for transmission of collegiate sports competitions.
- Sec. 203. Requirements for entities selling media rights.
- Sec. 204. Market level broadcast access for college football and basketball.
- Sec. 205. Prohibition on certain conference mergers or acquisition.
- Sec. 206. Amendments to intercollegiate and interseholastic football contest limitations.
- Sec. 207. Media rights utilization requirement for college sports other than football and basketball.

## 1 **TITLE I—PROTECTIONS OF STU-** 2 **DENT ATHLETES AND FAIR** 3 **COMPETITION**

### 4 **SEC. 100. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this title:

- 6 (1) **ANTITRUST LAWS.**—The term “antitrust
- 7 laws” has the meaning given that term in the 1st

1 section of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12) and in-  
2 cludes—

3 (A) section 5 of the Federal Trade Com-  
4 mission Act (15 U.S.C. 45) to the extent that  
5 such section 5 applies to unfair methods of  
6 competition; and

7 (B) any similar State antitrust law, includ-  
8 ing a State law provision that applies to cov-  
9 ering unfair methods of competition having the  
10 force and effect of law.

11 (2) ASSOCIATED ENTITY.—The term “associ-  
12 ated entity” means any individual or entity, includ-  
13 ing a collective, that is—

14 (A) known, or should have been known, to  
15 exist for or act for the benefit of, in coordina-  
16 tion with, or at the direction of an institution  
17 to promote or support an institution’s athletics  
18 program or student athletes, including by cre-  
19 ating or identifying name, image, and likeness  
20 compensation opportunities for an institution’s  
21 student athletes;

22 (B) an individual or entity that is or was  
23 a member, employee, director, officer, owner, or  
24 agent of an individual or entity described in  
25 subparagraph (A);

1 (C) an individual or entity that directly or  
2 indirectly (including contributions by an affili-  
3 ated entity, individual, or family member) has  
4 contributed more than \$50,000 over their life-  
5 time to a particular institution or to an indi-  
6 vidual or entity described in subparagraph (A);

7 (D) an individual or entity that has di-  
8 rectly or indirectly been directed or requested  
9 by an institution or third party acting on behalf  
10 of, for the benefit of, in coordination with, or  
11 at the direction of an institution to assist in the  
12 recruitment or retention of student athletes or  
13 prospective student athletes, or otherwise has  
14 assisted in the recruitment or retention of stu-  
15 dent athletes or prospective student athletes; or

16 (E) an individual or entity owned, con-  
17 trolled, or operated by, or otherwise affiliated  
18 with the individuals or entities described in sub-  
19 paragraph (A).

20 (3) ATHLETE AGENT.—The term “athlete  
21 agent” has the meaning given that term in section  
22 2 of the Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act  
23 (15 U.S.C. 7801).

24 (4) COLLECTIVE.—The term “collective”—

1           (A) means a person, corporation, booster  
2 organization, tax-exempt organization, or other  
3 entity that provides donations or other support  
4 directly or indirectly to or for the benefit or  
5 support of—

6           (i) a student athlete who is enrolled,  
7 or who may enroll, at an institution; or

8           (ii) the intercollegiate athletics pro-  
9 gram or any booster organization of an in-  
10 stitution; and

11         (B) does not include—

12           (i) an immediate family member of a  
13 student athlete; or

14           (ii) an individual or entity that—

15           (I) licenses trademark rights of  
16 an institution; and

17           (II) does not—

18           (aa) license name, image,  
19 and likeness rights of student  
20 athletes; or

21           (bb) make payments ear-  
22 marked or designated to fund  
23 name, image, or likeness licenses  
24 or other payments to student  
25 athletes.

1           (5) COMPENSATION.—The term “compensa-  
2           tion”—

3           (A) means any payment, remuneration, or  
4           benefit provided to a student athlete or a pro-  
5           spective student athlete; and

6           (B) does not include—

7           (i) grants-in-aid;

8           (ii) Federal Pell Grants provided  
9           under section 401 of the Higher Education  
10          Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a) or any  
11          other Federal or State grants unrelated to  
12          and not awarded with regard to participa-  
13          tion in intercollegiate sports;

14          (iii) health insurance and the costs of  
15          health care funded by an institution, inter-  
16          collegiate athletic association, or con-  
17          ference;

18          (iv) disability and loss-of-value insur-  
19          ance, including disability and loss-of-value  
20          insurance funded by an institution, inter-  
21          collegiate athletic association, or con-  
22          ference;

23          (v) career counseling, job placement  
24          services, or other guidance available to all  
25          students at an institution;

1 (vi) hourly wages and benefits for  
2 work performed outside of participating in  
3 intercollegiate sports at a rate commensu-  
4 rate with the prevailing rate in the relevant  
5 State or locality for similar work;

6 (vii) enhanced education benefits, in-  
7 cluding academic awards;

8 (viii) financial literacy or tax edu-  
9 cation resources; or

10 (ix) any program to connect student  
11 athletes with employers and facilitate em-  
12 ployment opportunities, if—

13 (I) the financial terms of such  
14 employment opportunities are con-  
15 sistent with the terms offered to simi-  
16 larly situated employees who are not  
17 student athletes; and

18 (II) such program is not used to  
19 induce a student athlete to attend a  
20 particular institution.

21 (6) CONFERENCE.—The term “conference”  
22 means any organization that is not an intercollegiate  
23 athletic association and that—

24 (A) has 2 or more institutions as members;

25 and

1 (B) arranges championships for intercolle-  
2 giate athletic competitions or sets rules for  
3 intercollegiate athletic competition.

4 (7) COST OF ATTENDANCE.—The term “cost of  
5 attendance”—

6 (A) has the meaning given that term in  
7 section 472 of the Higher Education Act of  
8 1965 (20 U.S.C. 108711); and

9 (B) shall be calculated by the financial aid  
10 office of an institution applying the same stand-  
11 ards, policies, and procedures for all students.

12 (8) GRANT-IN-AID.—The term “grant-in-aid”  
13 means—

14 (A) a scholarship, grant, stipend, or other  
15 form of financial assistance, including the provi-  
16 sion of tuition, room, board, books, or funds for  
17 fees or personal expenses, that—

18 (i) is paid or provided by an institu-  
19 tion to a student for the undergraduate or  
20 graduate education of the student; and

21 (ii) is in an amount that does not ex-  
22 ceed the cost of attendance for such stu-  
23 dent at the institution; and

24 (B) does not include compensation paid to  
25 a student athlete.

1           (9) IMAGE.—With respect to a student athlete,  
2           the term “image” means a picture, video, computer-  
3           generated representation, or other depiction that  
4           identifies, is linked to, or is reasonably linked to the  
5           student athlete.

6           (10) INSTITUTION.—Except as otherwise explic-  
7           itly provided, the term “institution” has the mean-  
8           ing given the term “institution of higher education”  
9           under section 101 of the Higher Education Act of  
10          1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

11          (11) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIA-  
12          TION.—The term “intercollegiate athletic associa-  
13          tion”—

14                (A) means any organization, not-for-profit  
15                corporation, association, or any other group or-  
16                ganized in the United States that—

17                    (i) sponsors or arranges intercollegiate  
18                    athletic competition between institutions;

19                    (ii) sets common rules, standards,  
20                    procedures, or guidelines for the adminis-  
21                    tration of intercollegiate athletic competi-  
22                    tion;

23                    (iii) is composed of 2 or more institu-  
24                    tions or conferences that are located in dif-  
25                    ferent States or participate in intercolle-

1                   giate athletic competition in more than 1  
2                   State; and

3                   (iv) is not a conference;

4                   (B) includes—

5                   (i) the National Collegiate Athletic  
6                   Association; and

7                   (ii) any other national intercollegiate  
8                   athletic association; and

9                   (C) does not include a corporation, associa-  
10                  tion, or other group affiliated with professional  
11                  athletic competition.

12                  (12) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC COMPETI-  
13                  TION.—The term “intercollegiate athletic competi-  
14                  tion” means any intercollegiate sport contest, game,  
15                  meet, match, tournament, regatta, or other inter-  
16                  collegiate sport event in which student athletes or  
17                  varsity sports teams compete.

18                  (13) INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORT.—The term  
19                  “intercollegiate sport”—

20                         (A) means a sport played between institu-  
21                         tions for which eligibility requirements for par-  
22                         ticipation by a student athlete are established  
23                         by an intercollegiate athletic association; and

24                         (B) does not include a recreational, intra-  
25                         mural, or club sport.

1           (14) LIKENESS.—With respect to a student  
2 athlete, the term “likeness” means a physical or dig-  
3 ital depiction or representation that identifies, is  
4 linked to, or is reasonably linked to the student ath-  
5 lete, including —

6           (A) the uniquely identifiable body, physical  
7 characteristics, or voice of the student athlete;

8           (B) any other mark that identifies or dis-  
9 tinguishes the student athlete; or

10           (C) the jersey number associated with the  
11 student athlete during the period of athletic  
12 participation by the student athlete at an insti-  
13 tution if the jersey number is accompanied by—

14           (i) a logo or color scheme that is  
15 clearly associated with the institution; or

16           (ii) some other means by which the  
17 jersey number is associated with the stu-  
18 dent athlete.

19           (15) NAME.—With respect to a student athlete,  
20 the term “name” means the first or last name that  
21 identifies the student athlete, a nickname or as-  
22 sumed name of the student athlete, or a username  
23 associated with the student athlete on any public-  
24 facing internet platform when used in a context that

1 identifies, is linked to, or is reasonably linked to the  
2 student athlete.

3 (16) NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS AGREE-  
4 MENT.—The term “name, image, and likeness agree-  
5 ment” means a contract or similar agreement be-  
6 tween a student athlete (or group of student ath-  
7 letes) and a conference, institution, intercollegiate  
8 athletic association, associated entity, collective, or  
9 third party regarding the commercial use of the  
10 name, image, and likeness rights of the student ath-  
11 lete (or group of student athletes).

12 (17) NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS RIGHTS.—  
13 The term “name, image, and likeness rights” means  
14 the ability of a student athlete to market and profit  
15 from the commercial use of his or her name, image,  
16 or likeness.

17 (18) PROSPECTIVE STUDENT ATHLETE.—The  
18 term “prospective student athlete” means an indi-  
19 vidual who is recruited, actively being recruited, or  
20 has been contacted for the purposes of recruitment  
21 to attend an institution as a student athlete, but has  
22 not yet enrolled at the institution.

23 (19) REVENUE SHARE CAP.—The term “rev-  
24 enue share cap” means the Benefits Pool Limit set  
25 forth in the Injunctive Relief Settlement Agreement

1 approved by the court in “In Re College Athlete  
2 NIL Litigation”, No. 20–cv–03919 (N.D. Cal. June  
3 6, 2025), or as modified pursuant to the amendment  
4 provision specified in paragraph 55 of that settle-  
5 ment.

6 (20) STUDENT ATHLETE.—The term “student  
7 athlete” means an individual who is enrolled as a  
8 full-time student at an institution and who—

9 (A) makes satisfactory progress towards  
10 completing a degree; and

11 (B) participates in intercollegiate athletic  
12 competition or competes for a varsity sports  
13 team as part of the institution’s educational,  
14 developmental, or extracurricular programs.

15 (21) THIRD PARTY.—The term “third party”  
16 means an individual or entity that is not an institu-  
17 tion, associated entity, collective, conference, or  
18 intercollegiate athletic association.

19 (22) VALID BUSINESS PURPOSE.—The term  
20 “valid business purpose” means a purpose genuinely  
21 related to the promotion of goods or services pro-  
22 vided to the general public for profit.

23 (23) VARSITY SPORTS TEAM.—The term “var-  
24 sity sports team” means a sports team composed of  
25 student athletes that is organized by an institution

1 for the purpose of intercollegiate athletic competi-  
2 tion.

3 **SEC. 101. NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKENESS PROTECTIONS.**

4 (a) STUDENT ATHLETE NAME, IMAGE, AND LIKE-  
5 NESS COMPENSATION.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this  
7 title, an institution, conference, intercollegiate ath-  
8 letic association, or any representative of such an  
9 entity may not—

10 (A) restrict the ability of a student athlete,  
11 group of student athletes, or prospective stu-  
12 dent athlete—

13 (i) to market or earn compensation  
14 for the value of their name, image, or like-  
15 ness rights; or

16 (ii) to enter into a name, image, and  
17 likeness agreement;

18 (B) restrict the eligibility for intercollegiate  
19 athletic competition for a student athlete or  
20 prospective student athlete on the basis of the  
21 student athlete or prospective student athlete  
22 entering into a name, image, and likeness  
23 agreement or marketing or earning compensa-  
24 tion for the value of their name, image, or like-  
25 ness;

1 (C) unless otherwise required by law, limit  
2 the eligibility or opportunity of a student ath-  
3 lete or prospective student athlete to apply for  
4 or receive a grant-in-aid, including the amount,  
5 duration, or renewal of such grant-in-aid, on  
6 the basis of the student athlete or prospective  
7 student athlete entering into a name, image,  
8 and likeness agreement, or marketing or earn-  
9 ing compensation for the value of their name,  
10 image, or likeness; or

11 (D) unless otherwise required by law, re-  
12 voke, reduce, or decline to renew a grant-in-aid  
13 for a student athlete or prospective student ath-  
14 lete based on the student athlete or prospective  
15 student athlete entering into a name, image,  
16 and likeness agreement or marketing or earning  
17 compensation for the value of their name,  
18 image, or likeness.

19 (2) CONSENT AND COMPENSATION FOR GROUP  
20 USE.—An institution, conference, intercollegiate ath-  
21 letic association, collective, third party, or any rep-  
22 resentative thereof, may not use the name, image, or  
23 likeness of any group of student athletes to sell or  
24 promote any product or service unless the institu-  
25 tion, conference, athletic association, collective, or

1 third party, as the case may be, obtains an agree-  
2 ment from each member of the group for that pur-  
3 pose.

4 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—

5 (A) CERTAIN AGREEMENTS.—An institu-  
6 tion may restrict the eligibility for intercolle-  
7 giate athletic competition of a student athlete  
8 or prospective student athlete who enters into a  
9 name, image, and likeness agreement that vio-  
10 lates the code of student conduct of the institu-  
11 tion that applies to all students enrolled at the  
12 institution.

13 (B) CERTAIN USES.—An institution may  
14 restrict the eligibility for intercollegiate athletic  
15 competition of a student athlete or prospective  
16 student athlete if, in connection with a name,  
17 image, and likeness agreement, the student ath-  
18 lete or prospective student athlete uses a facil-  
19 ity, uniform, equipment, registered or unregis-  
20 tered trademark, copyright-protected product,  
21 or the official logo, mark, or other indicia of the  
22 institution without the express consent of the  
23 institution.

24 (b) MANDATORY DISCLOSURES BY STUDENT ATH-  
25 LETES.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—All student athletes shall re-  
2           port to their institution—

3                   (A) not later than 5 days after entering  
4           into a name, image, and likeness agreement,  
5           the terms of any such agreement that exceeds  
6           \$600 in value, including multiple payments, re-  
7           munerations, or benefits from the same entity  
8           that exceeds a total of \$600 over a 12-month  
9           period; and

10                   (B) to the extent not reported under sub-  
11           paragraph (A), not later than 30 days after re-  
12           ceiving compensation for the name, image, or  
13           likeness of the student athlete, the amount and  
14           source of any such compensation that exceeds  
15           \$600, including multiple payments, remunera-  
16           tions, or benefits from the same entity that ex-  
17           ceeds a total of \$600 over a 12-month period.

18           (2) MANDATORY DISCLOSURES BY RECRUITED  
19           ATHLETES.—With respect to a student athlete or  
20           prospective student athlete who is recruited to at-  
21           tend, but is not yet enrolled in, an institution, the  
22           student athlete or prospective student athlete shall  
23           report to the institution—

24                   (A) the terms of any current or ongoing  
25           name, image, and likeness agreement that ex-

1           ceeds \$600 in value, including multiple pay-  
2           ments, remunerations, or benefits from the  
3           same entity that exceeds a total of \$600 over  
4           a 12-month period; and

5                   (B) to the extent not reported under sub-  
6           paragraph (A), the amount and source of any  
7           current or ongoing name, image, and likeness  
8           compensation that exceeds \$600, including mul-  
9           tiple payments, remunerations, or benefits from  
10          the same person that exceeds a total of \$600  
11          over a 12-month period.

12          (3) EXCEPTION.—

13                   (A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (1) and (2)  
14          shall not apply to either marketing or earning  
15          compensation for the value of the name, image,  
16          and likeness rights of a student athlete or to  
17          the compensation within a name, image, and  
18          likeness agreement in which a student athlete  
19          receives less than \$600, including multiple pay-  
20          ments, remunerations, or benefits from the  
21          same person that totals less than \$600 over a  
22          12-month period.

23                   (B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—The  
24          amount described in clause (i) shall be adjusted  
25          for inflation by the percent increase, if any, in

1 the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Con-  
2 sumers published by the Bureau of Labor Sta-  
3 tistics of the Department of Labor for the most  
4 recent 12-month period for which applicable  
5 data is available.

6 (4) RELEASE OF INFORMATION.—Except as  
7 provided in section 104 or as necessary to comply  
8 with this Act, an institution may not release any in-  
9 formation provided by a student athlete or prospec-  
10 tive student athlete in a disclosure under paragraph  
11 (1) or (2) without the express written consent of the  
12 student athlete, prospective student athlete, athlete  
13 agent of the student athlete or prospective student  
14 athlete, or, in case of a minor, the parent or legal  
15 guardian of the minor.

16 (5) LIMITATION.—This subsection shall apply  
17 only to Division I institutions, as defined by bylaw  
18 20.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association,  
19 or a successor bylaw, and student athletes or pro-  
20 spective student athletes of such institutions.

21 (c) NAME, IMAGE, OR LIKENESS COMPENSATION BY  
22 INSTITUTIONS.—Subject to the requirements of this title,  
23 an institution, intercollegiate athletic association, con-  
24 ference, collective, associated entity, or third party, may  
25 pay, provide, or facilitate compensation to a student ath-

1 lete for the use of the name, image, or likeness of the stu-  
2 dent athlete.

3 (d) **RIGHT TO REPRESENTATION.**—An institution,  
4 intercollegiate athletic association, or conference may not  
5 restrict the eligibility for intercollegiate athletic competi-  
6 tion, or any other event or activity relating to intercolle-  
7 giate athletic competition, of a prospective student athlete  
8 or student athlete based on the prospective student athlete  
9 or student athlete having obtained an athlete agent or  
10 legal representative.

11 (e) **EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES REGARDING THIS**  
12 **TITLE.**—An intercollegiate athletic association shall pro-  
13 vide student athletes and prospective student athletes and  
14 the parents or guardians of student athletes or prospective  
15 student athletes with educational materials relating to this  
16 title.

17 **SEC. 102. MODIFICATIONS TO SPORTS AGENT RESPONSIBI-**  
18 **BILITY AND TRUST ACT.**

19 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Sports Agent Responsibility  
20 and Trust Act (15 U.S.C. 7801 et seq.) is amended—

21 (1) in section 2 (15 U.S.C. 7801)—

22 (A) in paragraph (5), by inserting before  
23 the period the following: “and includes any  
24 name, image, and likeness agreement as defined

1 in section 100 of the Protect College Sports Act  
2 of 2026”;

3 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (6)  
4 through (9) as paragraphs (7) through (10), re-  
5 spectively; and

6 (C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the  
7 following:

8 “(6) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIA-  
9 TION.—The term ‘intercollegiate athletic association’  
10 has the meaning given that term in section 100 of  
11 Protect College Sports Act of 2026”;

12 (2) in section 3 (15 U.S.C. 7802)—

13 (A) in subsection (a)—

14 (i) in paragraph (2), by striking “or”  
15 at the end;

16 (ii) in paragraph (3), by striking the  
17 period at the end and inserting a semi-  
18 colon; and

19 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
20 lowing:

21 “(4) enter into an agency contract or represent  
22 a student athlete in a manner that violates section  
23 9;

1           “(5) charge a student athlete a fee in connec-  
2           tion with an endorsement contract that exceeds 5  
3           percent of the value of the endorsement contract;

4           “(6) enter into an agency contract with an ath-  
5           lete for a term that extends beyond the eligibility of  
6           the student athlete to participate in intercollegiate  
7           sport;

8           “(7) make any materially false, deceptive, or  
9           fraudulent representation as an athlete agent, in-  
10          cluding any materially false, deceptive, or fraudulent  
11          statement to a student athlete or prospective student  
12          athlete that misrepresents the existence, nature, or  
13          value of a name, image, or likeness opportunity the  
14          athlete agent can arrange on behalf of the student  
15          athlete or prospective student athlete through re-  
16          cruitment or transfer to an institution (as defined in  
17          section 100 of the Protect College Sports Act of  
18          2026); or

19          “(8) make a materially false, deceptive, or  
20          fraudulent statement in the application for registra-  
21          tion as an athlete agent.”; and

22                 (B) in subsection (b)(3), by striking  
23                 “Warning to Student Athlete: If you agree oral-  
24                 ly or in writing to be represented by an agent  
25                 now or in the future you may lose your eligi-

1 bility to compete as a student athlete in your  
2 sport.”;

3 (3) by inserting after section 5 (15 U.S.C.  
4 7804) the following:

5 **“SEC. 5A. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Any current or former student  
7 athlete alleging a violation of paragraphs (4) through (8)  
8 of section 3(a), section 9, or section 10 may bring a civil  
9 action in an appropriate district court of the United States  
10 or in an appropriate State court.

11 “(b) RELIEF.—In a civil action brought under sub-  
12 section (a) in which the plaintiff prevails, the court may  
13 award—

14 “(1) a declaratory judgment that a name,  
15 image, or likeness agreement (as defined in section  
16 100 of the Protect College Sports Act of 2026) or  
17 an agency contract, as applicable, is null and void;  
18 and

19 “(2) actual damages.

20 “(c) ATTORNEY’S FEES AND COSTS.—In a civil ac-  
21 tion brought under subsection (a) in which the defendant  
22 is not an institution (as defined in section 100 of the Pro-  
23 tect College Sports Act of 2026), the court may, in its  
24 discretion, award reasonable attorney’s fees and litigation  
25 costs.

1       “(d) INVALIDITY OF PRE-DISPUTE ARBITRATION  
2 AGREEMENTS AND PRE-DISPUTE JOINT ACTION WAIV-  
3 ERS.—

4           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
5 provision of law, no pre-dispute arbitration agree-  
6 ment or pre-dispute joint action waiver shall be valid  
7 or enforceable against a student athlete with respect  
8 to a dispute arising under this Act.

9           “(2) APPLICABILITY.—Any determination as to  
10 whether or how paragraph (1) applies to any dispute  
11 shall be made by a court, rather than an arbitrator,  
12 without regard to whether the agreement or waiver  
13 that is the subject of the dispute purports to dele-  
14 gate such determination to an arbitrator.

15           “(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

16           “(A) PRE-DISPUTE ARBITRATION AGREE-  
17 MENT.—The term ‘pre-dispute arbitration  
18 agreement’ means any agreement to arbitrate a  
19 dispute that has not arisen at the time of the  
20 making of the agreement.

21           “(B) PRE-DISPUTE JOINT-ACTION WAIV-  
22 ER.—The term ‘pre-dispute joint-action waiver’  
23 means an agreement, whether or not part of a  
24 pre-dispute arbitration agreement, that would  
25 prohibit, or waive the right of, one of the par-

1 ties to the agreement to participate in a joint,  
2 class, or collective action in a judicial, arbitral,  
3 administrative, or other forum, concerning a  
4 dispute that has not yet arisen at the time of  
5 the making of the agreement.”; and

6 (4) by adding at the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 9. REGISTRATION OF ATHLETE AGENTS AND OTHER**  
8 **REQUIREMENTS.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An athlete agent who seeks to  
10 represent a student athlete in an endorsement contract  
11 shall—

12 “(1) register with a State before representing a  
13 student athlete for an endorsement contract; and

14 “(2) enter into an agency contract with the stu-  
15 dent athlete before providing representation in an  
16 endorsement contract.

17 “(b) REGISTRATION ESTABLISHED.—An individual is  
18 deemed to be registered with a State for purposes of this  
19 section if the individual is—

20 “(1) a registered professional sports agent with  
21 a professional sports league or players association, in  
22 good standing; or

23 “(2) registered and certified under the All State  
24 Uniform Agent Acts in the State in which the agent  
25 operates, in good standing.

1       “(c) CERTIFICATION TO INTERCOLLEGIATE ATH-  
2 LETIC ASSOCIATIONS.—

3           “(1) REQUIREMENT.—An athlete agent that  
4 represents a student athlete shall certify to each ap-  
5 plicable intercollegiate athletic association that the  
6 athlete agent is registered with a State.

7           “(2) PROHIBITION.—It is unlawful for an indi-  
8 vidual to certify to an intercollegiate athletic associa-  
9 tion that the individual is an athlete agent if the in-  
10 dividual is not registered with a State.

11       “(d) REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENCY CONTRACTS.—To  
12 be a valid contract, an agency contract shall—

13           “(1) state the name of each party to the con-  
14 tract;

15           “(2) state the term of the contract;

16           “(3) state the registration information for the  
17 athlete agent; and

18           “(4) state the fee or commission charged by the  
19 athlete agent.

20 **“SEC. 10. ENDORSEMENT CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS.**

21       “An endorsement contract made in interstate or for-  
22 eign commerce is, at the option of the student athlete, void  
23 from the inception of such contract if such contract does  
24 not satisfy the following requirements:

25           “(1) The contract is in writing.

1           “(2) The contract plainly states that the stu-  
2           dent athlete has the right to obtain or retain an ath-  
3           lete agent or legal representation with respect to the  
4           contract.

5           “(3) The contract contains—

6                   “(A) a description of services rendered;

7                   “(B) the names of each party to the con-  
8           tract;

9                   “(C) the terms of the contract;

10                  “(D) the amount of compensation to be  
11           provided to the student athlete under the con-  
12           tract;

13                  “(E) a provision specifying the cir-  
14           cumstance or event that would result in the ter-  
15           mination of the contract due to nonperformance  
16           of obligations by the student athlete or other  
17           parties to the contract; and

18                  “(F) a provision specifying that the valid-  
19           ity and effectiveness of the contract, and the  
20           provision of compensation to the student athlete  
21           under the contract, is not conditioned upon any  
22           express or implicit requirement that the student  
23           athlete enroll or remain enrolled at an institu-  
24           tion or reside in a particular location within the  
25           United States, unless the party making the con-



1           (2) have certified compliance with all rules and  
2           bylaws of such intercollegiate athletic association, in-  
3           cluding any recruitment and tampering rules adopt-  
4           ed under section 117.

5           (b) DECERTIFICATION PERMITTED.—

6           (1) IN GENERAL.—An intercollegiate athletic  
7           association may decertify or fine an athlete agent for  
8           any violations of section 9 of the Sports Agent Re-  
9           sponsibility and Trust Act, as added by section 102,  
10          or any violation of section 117 on recruitment and  
11          tampering.

12          (2) EFFECT OF DECERTIFICATION.—An athlete  
13          agent that is decertified pursuant to paragraph (1)  
14          may not represent or contact a student athlete or  
15          prospective student athlete of an institution that is  
16          a member of such intercollegiate athletic association.

17 **SEC. 104. DISCLOSURES AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NAME,**  
18                                   **IMAGE, AND LIKENESS AGREEMENT DATA-**  
19                                   **BASE.**

20          (a) DISCLOSURES BY INSTITUTIONS.—

21           (1) DISCLOSURE OF DATA ON NAME, IMAGE,  
22           AND LIKENESS AGREEMENTS.—Not later than July  
23           1 of the first year beginning after the date of the  
24           enactment of this Act, and each July 1 thereafter,  
25           each institution shall disclose to the intercollegiate

1 athletic association of which the institution is a  
2 member, in an anonymized manner, the following  
3 data:

4 (A) With respect to each name, image, and  
5 likeness agreement disclosed to the institution  
6 by a student athlete as required by section  
7 101(b)—

8 (i) a description of services rendered;  
9 and

10 (ii) the amount of compensation to be  
11 provided to the student athlete or group of  
12 athletes under the agreement.

13 (B) With respect to each name, image, and  
14 likeness agreement entered into between the in-  
15 stitution and a student athlete, disaggregated  
16 by intercollegiate sports program—

17 (i) the number of agreements the in-  
18 stitution entered into;

19 (ii) the average value of the agree-  
20 ments; and

21 (iii) the total value of the agreements.

22 (2) REPORT ON REVENUE AND STUDENT OUT-  
23 COMES.—Not later than 60 days after the date on  
24 which an academic year ends, each institution with  
25 1 or more intercollegiate sports programs shall sub-

1       mit to the governing athletic association for such in-  
2       stitution a report that includes, for the academic  
3       year, the following:

4               (A) The amount of revenues and expendi-  
5       tures of each such sports program, including  
6       the amount of associated entity and third-party  
7       donations, Federal funds, and State funds, in-  
8       cluding the total amount of remuneration for  
9       personnel of each intercollegiate sports pro-  
10      gram, individually by program and in the ag-  
11      gregate.

12              (B) The average number of hours student  
13      athletes spent on intercollegiate athletic events  
14      and intercollegiate athletic competition,  
15      disaggregated by sports program.

16              (C) The academic outcomes and majors for  
17      student athletes, disaggregated by sports pro-  
18      gram.

19              (3) TREATMENT OF MEN'S AND WOMEN'S PRO-  
20      GRAMS.—An institution shall treat men's and wom-  
21      en's sports programs as distinct sports programs for  
22      the purposes of disclosure and reporting obligations  
23      under this subsection.

24              (4) PROTECTION OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFI-  
25      ABLE INFORMATION.—In making a disclosure under

1 paragraph (1), an institution shall ensure that no  
2 personally identifiable information of a student ath-  
3 lete is transmitted to an intercollegiate athletic asso-  
4 ciation.

5 (b) DISCLOSURES BY ASSOCIATIONS AND DATA-  
6 BASE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September of  
8 the first year beginning after the date of the enact-  
9 ment of this Act, each intercollegiate athletic asso-  
10 ciation shall establish and maintain a publicly acces-  
11 sible, searchable database for student athletes and  
12 their agents to estimate the fair market value for  
13 name, image, and likeness agreements.

14 (2) CONTENT OF DATABASE.—An intercolle-  
15 giate athletic association shall include the data re-  
16 ported by institutions pursuant to subsection (a)(1)  
17 in the database described in paragraph (1).

18 (3) UPDATE OF DATABASE.—An intercollegiate  
19 athletic association shall update the database de-  
20 scribed in paragraph (1) each September 1.

21 (4) PRIVACY.—An intercollegiate athletic asso-  
22 ciation shall take reasonable technical measures to  
23 ensure that information available in the database de-  
24 scribed in paragraph (1) may not be used to identify  
25 a student athlete.

1           (5) LIMITATION.—This section applies only to  
2           Division 1 institutions, as defined by bylaw 20.9 of  
3           the National Collegiate Athletic Association, or a  
4           successor bylaw.

5 **SEC. 105. ACADEMIC PROTECTIONS.**

6           (a) PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO COURSEWORK AND  
7           EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—An employee or volunteer of  
9           an athletic department of an institution may not—

10                   (A) exert undue pressure over or prevent a  
11                   student athlete from selecting a course or an  
12                   academic major of the student athlete's choice;

13                   (B) retaliate against a student athlete  
14                   based on the student athlete's selection of any  
15                   course or academic major; or

16                   (C) prevent a student athlete who seeks to  
17                   secure employment or internships, participate in  
18                   student groups or events, or serve as a volun-  
19                   teer from doing so, unless such activity inter-  
20                   feres with mandatory class time or mandatory  
21                   events related to intercollegiate athletic com-  
22                   petition or membership on a varsity sports  
23                   team.

24           (2) PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC RELATED AC-  
25           TIVITIES.—In order to ensure each student athlete

1 makes satisfactory progress toward the completion  
2 of a degree, each intercollegiate athletic association  
3 and any institution that is a member of such asso-  
4 ciation may limit a student athlete to only partici-  
5 pate in countable athletic-related activities as part of  
6 the educational, developmental, or extracurricular  
7 programs of the institution.

8 (3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph (1)  
9 may not be construed as preventing an institution,  
10 an athletic department of an institution, or a rep-  
11 resentative thereof from—

12 (A) informing a student athlete of aca-  
13 demic eligibility requirements and mandatory  
14 and expected team activities; or

15 (B) providing other legitimate academic  
16 counseling and support services, in collaboration  
17 with the institution, to help the student athlete  
18 pursue the academic interests of and improve  
19 academic outcomes for the student athlete.

20 (b) FINANCIAL LITERACY AND LIFE SKILLS.—An in-  
21 stitution that offers financial literacy and life skills pro-  
22 gramming directed to student athletes may not include  
23 any marketing, advertising, referral, or solicitation offers  
24 in such programming.

25 (c) SCHOLARSHIP PROTECTIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
2 graph (2), an institution that awards a grant-in-aid  
3 to a student athlete may not revoke, reduce, or con-  
4 dition the grant-in-aid of the student athlete—

5 (A) based on the athletic ability or per-  
6 formance of the student athlete or the contribu-  
7 tion of the student athlete to the success of a  
8 varsity sports team;

9 (B) as a result of an injury or illness based  
10 on a physical or mental medical condition of the  
11 student athlete; or

12 (C) roster management decisions.

13 (2) EXCEPTION.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—An institution may re-  
15 voke, reduce, or condition the grant-in-aid of a  
16 student athlete or former student athlete who—

17 (i) transfers to another institution; or

18 (ii) does not remain in good standing

19 in accordance with—

20 (I) the standards or code of con-  
21 duct of the institution applicable to all  
22 students;

23 (II) the established athletics pro-  
24 gram policies for participating in

1 mandatory team athletic activities for  
2 a varsity sports team; or

3 (III) the academic standards for  
4 athletic eligibility.

5 (B) NOTICE.—An institution shall provide  
6 a student athlete with timely written notice  
7 with respect to any possible revocation or reduc-  
8 tion of, or condition on, the grant-in-aid or ath-  
9 letic eligibility of the student athlete.

10 (C) REINSTATEMENT.—In the case of a  
11 revocation or reduction of, or condition on, the  
12 grant-in-aid of a student athlete under this  
13 paragraph, an institution may reinstate or re-  
14 move any condition placed on such grant-in-aid  
15 if the student athlete subsequently cures or sat-  
16 isfies the reasons provided by the notice in sub-  
17 paragraph (B).

18 (D) FORMER STUDENT ATHLETES.—

19 (i) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a  
20 former student athlete described in clause  
21 (ii), an institution shall provide the former  
22 student athlete—

23 (I) the opportunity to resume  
24 study at the institution for the pur-

1                   pose of completing the requirements  
2                   necessary to earn a degree; and  
3                   (II) the amount of grant-in-aid  
4                   the former student athlete received  
5                   while previously enrolled at the insti-  
6                   tution and participating—  
7                   (aa) in intercollegiate ath-  
8                   letic competition; or  
9                   (bb) as a member of a var-  
10                  sity sports team.  
11                  (ii) FORMER STUDENT ATHLETE DE-  
12                  SCRIBED.—A former student athlete de-  
13                  scribed in this subparagraph is a former  
14                  student athlete of an institution who—  
15                  (I) was enrolled at the institution  
16                  during their last year of eligibility to  
17                  participate in intercollegiate athletic  
18                  competition during the preceding 10-  
19                  year period;  
20                  (II) received grant-in-aid while  
21                  enrolled at the institution;  
22                  (III) was not subject to the rev-  
23                  ocation of grant-in-aid under subpara-  
24                  graph (A)(ii)(I); and

1 (IV) has not completed the  
2 course of study for an undergraduate  
3 degree.

4 (E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
5 this paragraph may be construed to preclude—

6 (i) an institution from providing addi-  
7 tional grant-in-aid protections for student  
8 athletes or former student athletes; or

9 (ii) an intercollegiate athletic associa-  
10 tion, conference, institution, student ath-  
11 lete, or former student athlete from re-  
12 questing or advocating for additional  
13 grant-in-aid protections.

14 (3) LIMITATION.—Paragraph (2)(D) shall apply  
15 only to institutions that compete in Division I, as  
16 defined by bylaw 20.9 of the National Collegiate  
17 Athletic Association, or a successor bylaw.

18 **SEC. 106. MEDICAL COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each Division I institution, as de-  
20 fined by bylaw 20.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic As-  
21 sociation, or a successor bylaw, or an intercollegiate ath-  
22 letic association or conference comprised of Division I  
23 member institutions shall provide or cause to be pro-  
24 vided—

1           (1) during the participation of a student athlete  
2           in an intercollegiate sport—

3                   (A) all out-of-pocket medical expenses,  
4                   such as copayments or deductibles, for the  
5                   health care coverage of a student athlete for  
6                   any injury or disease incurred through partici-  
7                   pation in an intercollegiate sport;

8                   (B) the expense for obtaining a medical  
9                   second opinion independent of the institution  
10                  for any injury or disease the student athlete in-  
11                  curred through participation in an intercolle-  
12                  giate sport;

13                  (C) catastrophic injury medical insurance  
14                  for any injury or disease incurred through par-  
15                  ticipation in an intercollegiate sport that ex-  
16                  ceeds \$90,000 in medical costs; and

17                  (D) an end-of-college physical examination  
18                  for a student athlete for the purpose of docu-  
19                  menting and diagnosing any injury or condition  
20                  related to the student athlete's participation in  
21                  an intercollegiate sport; and

22           (2) with respect to a student athlete enrolled at  
23           the institution during their last year of eligibility to  
24           participate in intercollegiate athletic competition, for  
25           the 5-year period beginning on the day after the last

1       intercollegiate competition for the student athlete,  
2       the cost of all out-of-pocket medical expenses of the  
3       student athlete for health care coverage for any in-  
4       jury or disease incurred through participation in an  
5       intercollegiate sport.

6       (b) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
7 POST-ELIGIBILITY INSURANCE AND CATASTROPHIC IN-  
8 JURY FUND OR PROGRAM.—

9           (1) IN GENERAL.—An intercollegiate athletic  
10       association comprised of member institutions that  
11       compete in Division I, Division II, or Division III,  
12       as defined by bylaw 20 of the National Collegiate  
13       Athletic Association, or a successor bylaw, on behalf  
14       of its member institutions must establish a fund or  
15       program to help cover the cost of—

16           (A) in the case of a Division I institution  
17       that generates less than \$20,000,000 in total  
18       annual athletics revenue during the preceding  
19       academic year, compliance with subsection  
20       (a)(2) (or, in the case of a Division II or Divi-  
21       sion III institution, voluntary compliance with  
22       subsection (a)(2)), in the event of demonstrated  
23       financial hardship; and

24           (B) post-eligibility medical expenses for the  
25       student athletes of a member institution who

1           are diagnosed with significant long-term condi-  
2           tions related to their participation in an inter-  
3           collegiate sport, including chronic traumatic  
4           encephalopathy and any other cognitive impair-  
5           ment.

6           (2) AMOUNT OF FUND.—The intercollegiate  
7           athletic association described in this subsection shall  
8           ensure that the fund or program established under  
9           this subsection is funded at an amount that totals  
10          at least \$60,000,000 on the first day of each aca-  
11          demic year.

12          (3) USE OF COLLECTIVE MEDIA RIGHTS.—In  
13          ensuring that the fund or program established under  
14          paragraph (2) is adequately funded, an intercolle-  
15          giate athletic association may use the collective  
16          media rights revenue from a covered entity, in ac-  
17          cordance with section 5(d)(3) of the Sports Broad-  
18          casting Act of 1961, as added by section 203.

19          (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
20          tion may be construed to preclude an intercollegiate ath-  
21          letic association from—

22                 (1) providing or causing to be provided to stu-  
23                 dent athletes medical coverage in addition to the  
24                 medical coverage required by subsection (a); or

1           (2) exceeding \$60,000,000 for the fund or pro-  
2           gram established in subsection (b) for any academic  
3           year.

4 **SEC. 107. HEALTH, WELLNESS, AND SAFETY STANDARDS.**

5           (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARDS.—Not later  
6 than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
7 each institution, conference, and intercollegiate athletic  
8 association shall adhere to standards to protect student  
9 athletes from sports-related serious injury, conditions, and  
10 death, including—

11           (1) brain injury, by adhering to the concussion  
12 management practices, protocols, and legislation of  
13 the National Collegiate Athletic Association effective  
14 January 15, 2024, and as amended to strengthen  
15 protections for student athletes;

16           (2) heat-related illness, by adhering to the  
17 American College of Sports Medicine Expert Con-  
18 sensus Statement on Exertional Heat Illness: Rec-  
19 ognition, Management, and Return to Activity (April  
20 2023), and as amended to strengthen protections for  
21 student athletes;

22           (3) rhabdomyolysis, in accordance with the  
23 guidelines of the National Collegiate Athletic Asso-  
24 ciation for exertional rhabdomyolysis published in

1       2025, and as amended to strengthen protections for  
2       student athletes; and

3           (4) for any student athlete who is identified  
4       with—

5           (A) sickle cell trait, by following the guide-  
6       lines published by the National Collegiate Ath-  
7       letic Association in 2025, and as amended to  
8       strengthen protections for student athletes; and

9           (B) asthma, by following the guidelines of  
10       the National Athletic Trainers' Association Po-  
11       sition Statement: Management of Asthma in  
12       Athletes (September 2005), and as amended to  
13       strengthen protections for student athletes.

14       (b) MEASURES TO PREVENT, ASSESS, AND REME-  
15       DIATE ABUSE OR MISCONDUCT.—Each institution, con-  
16       ference, and intercollegiate athletic association shall take  
17       reasonable actions to prevent, assess, and remediate—

18           (1) abuse or hazing of any student athlete, in-  
19       cluding physical and sexual abuse; and

20           (2) sexual assault, sexual misconduct, and sex-  
21       ual harassment.

22       (c) PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON CONTACT FOR  
23       STUDENT ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN.—

24           (1) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIA-  
25       TION.—An intercollegiate athletic association shall

1 provide to student athletes information on how to  
2 contact the Office of the Student Athlete Ombuds-  
3 man, as established in section 108, on the internet  
4 website of the association.

5 (2) INSTITUTION.—At the beginning of each  
6 academic year, an institution shall provide to stu-  
7 dent athletes information on how to locate the  
8 website specified under paragraph (1) or a link to  
9 the website and information on how to contact the  
10 Office of the Student Athlete Ombudsman, as estab-  
11 lished in section 108.

12 (d) ATHLETIC HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICERS.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each institution shall des-  
14 ignate an employee, who is independent of the ath-  
15 letic department, as the athletic health and safety  
16 officer for the institution.

17 (2) REPORTING.—The athletic health and safe-  
18 ty officer designated under paragraph (1) shall re-  
19 port to an employee of the institution who is inde-  
20 pendent of the athletic department.

21 (3) OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES.—An employee  
22 who is designated by an institution under paragraph  
23 (1) as an athletic health and safety officer shall be  
24 responsible for, at a minimum—

1 (A) overseeing implementation of the appli-  
2 cable requirements the institution is subject to  
3 under this section, including any applicable  
4 training, oversight practices, policies, and pro-  
5 cedures; and

6 (B) consulting with student athletes and  
7 athletic department personnel and reporting  
8 any suspected violations of this section to the  
9 employee specified under paragraph (2).

10 (e) INDEPENDENCE OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Medical personnel, including  
12 athletic trainers, physical therapists, and physicians,  
13 shall have the autonomous, unchallengeable author-  
14 ity to determine medical management and return to  
15 play decisions for student athletes under their care  
16 at an institution.

17 (2) LIMITATION ON NONMEDICAL PER-  
18 SONNEL.—No coach or other nonmedical personnel  
19 of an institution may attempt to influence or dis-  
20 regard the decisions of medical personnel with re-  
21 spect to the medical management and return to play  
22 decisions for student athletes under their care at the  
23 institution.

24 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
25 tion may be construed to preclude—

1           (1) an intercollegiate athletic association from  
2           establishing additional health, wellness, and safety  
3           standards to protect student athletes; or

4           (2) an intercollegiate athletic association, con-  
5           ference, institution, or student athletes from request-  
6           ing or advocating for additional health, wellness, and  
7           safety standards to protect student athletes.

8 **SEC. 108. OFFICE OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN.**

9           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—An intercollegiate athletic associa-  
10          tion shall establish an office to support student athletes,  
11          known as the “Office of the Student Athlete Ombudsman”  
12          (in this section referred to as the “Office”).

13          (b) **DUTIES.**—The Office shall—

14               (1) provide independent advice to student ath-  
15               letes at no cost about the applicable requirements of  
16               this title and the amendments made by this title, in-  
17               cluding with respect to their rights and responsibil-  
18               ities and the resources available;

19               (2) assist in the resolution of student athlete  
20               concerns regarding the intercollegiate athletic asso-  
21               ciation, conferences, or institutions;

22               (3) provide independent advice to student ath-  
23               letes with respect to the role, responsibility, author-  
24               ity, and jurisdiction of the intercollegiate athletic as-  
25               sociation, conferences, or institutions;

1           (4) provide student athletes with current con-  
2           tact information for external third-party resources  
3           for student athletes;

4           (5) provide independent advice to student ath-  
5           letes with respect to the relative value of engaging  
6           legal counsel;

7           (6) develop standard language to explain the  
8           rights and responsibilities of student athletes under  
9           this Act that institutions shall be required to con-  
10          spicuously display in common areas where student  
11          athletes congregate, such as locker rooms, dor-  
12          mitories, or study areas, to ensure that student ath-  
13          letes are properly informed of their rights, respon-  
14          sibilities, and ability to contact the Ombudsman; and

15          (7) as appropriate, develop curricula to educate  
16          student athletes on their rights and responsibilities  
17          under this Act that is capable of being shared  
18          through in person or online classes, training ses-  
19          sions, or other means.

20          (c) ADMINISTRATION.—An intercollegiate athletic as-  
21          sociation shall hire and provide salary, benefits, and ad-  
22          ministrative expenses for an Ombudsman and support  
23          staff for the Office.

24          (d) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall maintain as  
2 confidential any information communicated or pro-  
3 vided to the Office in confidence in any matter in-  
4 volving the exercise of the official duties of the Of-  
5 fice.

6           (2) EXCEPTION.—The Office may, with the per-  
7 mission of the parties involved, disclose information  
8 described in paragraph (1) as necessary to resolve or  
9 mediate a dispute.

10          (3) APPLICATION.—The confidentiality require-  
11 ments under this subsection shall not apply to infor-  
12 mation—

13               (A) as necessary to comply with applicable  
14 reporting requirements mandated by Federal  
15 law;

16               (B) relating to a felony personally wit-  
17 nessed by a member of the Office;

18               (C) if necessary to protect an individual at  
19 imminent risk of serious harm; or

20               (D) with the permission of the parties in-  
21 volved, as necessary to resolve or mediate a dis-  
22 pute.

23          (4) JUDICIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRO-  
24 CEEDINGS.—

1           (A) IN GENERAL.—The Ombudsman and  
2           any staff of the Office shall not be compelled to  
3           testify or produce evidence in any judicial or  
4           administrative proceeding with respect to any  
5           matter involving the exercise of the duties of  
6           the Office.

7           (B) CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any memo-  
8           randum, work product, notes, or case file of the  
9           Office—

10                   (i) shall be confidential; and

11                   (ii) shall not be—

12                           (I) subject to discovery, sub-  
13                           poena, or any other means of legal  
14                           compulsion; or

15                           (II) admissible as evidence in a  
16                           judicial or administrative proceeding.

17           (5) PROHIBITION ON RETALIATION.—No em-  
18           ployee, contractor, agent, volunteer, or member of an  
19           intercollegiate athletic association, a conference, or  
20           an institution shall take or threaten to take any ac-  
21           tion against a student athlete as a reprisal for dis-  
22           closing information to or seeking assistance from the  
23           Office.

24           (e) INDEPENDENCE IN CARRYING OUT DUTIES.—  
25           The board of directors or other governing board or com-

1 mittee of an intercollegiate athletic association, a con-  
2 ference, or an institution shall not prevent or prohibit the  
3 Office from carrying out any duty or responsibility under  
4 this section.

5 **SEC. 109. COMPARABLE STANDARDS FOR ACCESS TO FA-**  
6 **CILITIES, SERVICES, AND EVENTS.**

7 Intercollegiate athletic associations and conferences  
8 shall maintain comparable standards for medical care,  
9 lodging, meals, rest, transportation, and, if applicable,  
10 athletic facilities for championship events or tournaments,  
11 across similarly situated men's and women's athletic pro-  
12 grams.

13 **SEC. 110. RULES GOVERNING CERTAIN MID-SEASON**  
14 **COACHING TRANSITIONS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual who serves, or has  
16 served at any point during a competitive season, as foot-  
17 ball athletic personnel for a varsity sports team for inter-  
18 collegiate football at an institution shall not, during that  
19 same competitive season, perform for another institution  
20 any duties or responsibilities customarily associated with  
21 a head coach of a varsity sports team for intercollegiate  
22 football, including, at a minimum—

23 (1) recruiting or contacting prospective or cur-  
24 rent student athletes;

1           (2) directing, participating in, or materially in-  
2           fluencing recruiting strategy or evaluations;

3           (3) directing, participating in, or materially in-  
4           fluencing roster management decisions, including de-  
5           cisions relating to transfers;

6           (4) facilitating, coordinating, negotiating, or  
7           otherwise materially influencing name, image, and  
8           likeness activities involving student athletes;

9           (5) directing, supervising, or materially influ-  
10          encing coaching staff or team operations;

11          (6) participating in practice planning, game  
12          preparation, strategic decision-making, or on-field  
13          activities;

14          (7) publicly representing the institution in an  
15          intercollegiate football-related capacity in a manner  
16          that reflects or implies authority over the intercolle-  
17          giate football program; and

18          (8) undertaking any other activity customarily  
19          associated with a head coach of a varsity sports  
20          team for intercollegiate football.

21          (b) APPLICATION.—Subsection (a) shall apply with-  
22          out regard to title, formal designation, compensation  
23          structure, employment status, or timing of any public an-  
24          nouncement, and the applicable intercollegiate athletic as-  
25          sociation may prohibit any arrangement that, in substance

1 or effect, provides an individual described in subsection  
2 (a) with authority or responsibilities customarily exercised  
3 by a head coach.

4 (c) DETERMINATION OF INELIGIBILITY.—An indi-  
5 vidual described in subsection (a) who accepts employ-  
6 ment, appointment, or designation as head coach of a var-  
7 sity sports team for intercollegiate football at another in-  
8 stitution during the same competitive season is ineligible  
9 to participate in intercollegiate athletic competition for  
10 intercollegiate football as head coach for the hiring institu-  
11 tion through the conclusion of the competitive season, in-  
12 cluding any postseason competition, of the prior institu-  
13 tion or the hiring institution, whichever occurs later.

14 (d) PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE.—In the  
15 event an individual who accepts employment, appointment,  
16 or designation as head coach of a varsity sports team for  
17 intercollegiate football at another institution violates this  
18 section, that individual shall be ineligible to assume the  
19 duties as head coach of the varsity sports team for inter-  
20 collegiate football at the hiring institution for the subse-  
21 quent competitive season after the season in which the vio-  
22 lation occurred and be subject to additional penalties suffi-  
23 cient to ensure compliance with this section.

24 (e) APPLICATION.—This section applies only to insti-  
25 tutions that compete in the Football Bowl Subdivision, as

1 defined by bylaw 20.9.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic  
2 Association, or a successor bylaw.

3 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) APPLICABLE INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC  
5 ASSOCIATION.—The term “applicable intercollegiate  
6 athletic association” means only an intercollegiate  
7 athletic association that has at least one member in-  
8 stitution that is a member of the Football Bowl Sub-  
9 division, as defined by bylaw 20.9.9 of the National  
10 Collegiate Athletic Association, or a successor bylaw.

11 (2) COMPETITIVE SEASON.—The term “com-  
12 petitive season” means the period beginning with the  
13 first regularly scheduled intercollegiate athletic com-  
14 petition for intercollegiate football for an institution  
15 during a season and ending with the conclusion of  
16 the final intercollegiate athletic competition for  
17 intercollegiate football for the institution during that  
18 season.

19 (3) FOOTBALL ATHLETIC PERSONNEL.—The  
20 term “football athletic personnel” means any indi-  
21 vidual employed by, contracted with, or otherwise  
22 engaged by an institution who provides coaching, in-  
23 struction, recruiting, roster management, or training  
24 as the head coach or a coordinator, including an of-  
25 fensive, defensive, or special teams coordinator, of

1 student athletes who are members of or participate  
2 with the varsity sports team for intercollegiate foot-  
3 ball of the institution.

4 (4) INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL.—The term  
5 “intercollegiate football”—

6 (A) means football played between institu-  
7 tions for which eligibility requirements for par-  
8 ticipation by a student athlete are established  
9 by an intercollegiate athletic association; and

10 (B) does not include a recreational, intra-  
11 mural, or club sport.

12 **SEC. 111. STUDENT ATHLETE REPRESENTATION ON INTER-**  
13 **COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION GOV-**  
14 **ERNING BOARDS.**

15 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 1/3 of the member-  
16 ship and voting power of any board of directors or other  
17 governing board, or committees with authority to establish  
18 and enforce rules or bylaws shall be comprised of current  
19 student athletes or former student athletes who have grad-  
20 uated from their institution during the preceding 10-year  
21 period.

22 (b) LIMITATION.—

23 (1) A former student athlete who is a current  
24 or former employee of an intercollegiate athletic as-  
25 sociation, a conference, or a member institution may

1 not count towards the student athlete membership  
2 requirement pursuant to subsection (a); and

3 (2) no member of any such board or committee  
4 shall vote on any matter that presents a conflict of  
5 interest for such member.

6 **SEC. 112. TRANSFER PROTECTIONS.**

7 An institution, a conference, an intercollegiate ath-  
8 letic association, or any representative of such entity shall  
9 permit a student athlete to transfer from one institution  
10 to another institution—

11 (1) once without losing or delaying eligibility to  
12 participate in intercollegiate sports;

13 (2) except as provided in paragraph (3), a sec-  
14 ond time with a loss of eligibility to participate in  
15 intercollegiate sports during the first academic year  
16 following the transfer; and

17 (3) additionally, without losing or delaying eligi-  
18 bility to participate in intercollegiate sports, upon—

19 (A) discontinuation of a sport in which the  
20 student athlete competes;

21 (B) the departure of the head coach of the  
22 student athlete's varsity sports team;

23 (C) sexual assault or harassment of the  
24 student athlete by an individual associated with  
25 the student athlete's varsity sports team; or

1 (D) the student athlete pursuing a grad-  
2 uate degree.

3 **SEC. 113. ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERCOLLE-**  
4 **GIATE SPORTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual is eligible to partici-  
6 pate on a varsity sports team or in intercollegiate athletic  
7 competition if the individual—

8 (1) is a student athlete;

9 (2) meets uniform academic standards estab-  
10 lished by the relevant intercollegiate athletic associa-  
11 tion, conference, or institution;

12 (3) is not a professional athlete; and

13 (4) complies with established rules that restrict  
14 eligibility for violations of State or Federal law.

15 (b) YEARS OF ELIGIBILITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), a  
17 student athlete is eligible to compete in intercolle-  
18 giate athletic competition for a maximum of 5 cal-  
19 endar years beginning on, whichever occurs first—

20 (A) the beginning of the academic year fol-  
21 lowing the 19th birthday of the student athlete;  
22 or

23 (B) the date the student athlete initially  
24 enrolls full time at an institution.

1           (2) EXCEPTIONS.—Paragraph (1) does not  
2 apply during a period of absence for any of the fol-  
3 lowing:

4           (A) Reasons of pregnancy.

5           (B) Religious mission.

6           (C) Active-duty military service.

7           (D) Other periods of absence adopted by  
8 rule or bylaw by an intercollegiate athletic asso-  
9 ciation that apply uniformly to all student ath-  
10 letes.

11       (c) RESTRICTIONS ON ELIGIBILITY.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—An intercollegiate athletic  
13 association or a conference may restrict the eligi-  
14 bility of a student athlete to participate in intercolle-  
15 giate sports if the student athlete—

16           (A) used an illegal or performance enhanc-  
17 ing drug; or

18           (B) participated in sports wagering activi-  
19 ties.

20           (2) CODE OF CONDUCT.—An institution may  
21 restrict the eligibility of a student athlete to partici-  
22 pate in intercollegiate sports if the student athlete  
23 violated the code of conduct of the institution that  
24 applies to all students.

1 (d) CLARIFICATION ON PRIZE MONEY.—For pur-  
2 poses of subsection (a)(3), a student athlete who competes  
3 in a sport other than football or basketball shall not be  
4 considered a professional athlete based solely on the  
5 amount of prize money the student athlete received based  
6 on place finish or performance in an athletic event before  
7 or after enrollment in an institution, so long as—

8 (1) the prize money was provided only by the  
9 sponsor of the athletics event; and

10 (2) the sponsor of the athletics event is not an  
11 institution, employee of an institution, volunteer of  
12 an institution, collective, or an associated entity.

13 (e) TRANSFER FROM 2-YEAR INSTITUTION.—No  
14 intercollegiate athletic association or conference shall re-  
15 quire a student athlete who transfers from a 2-year insti-  
16 tution to a 4-year institution to meet additional or more  
17 stringent academic standards than the academic stand-  
18 ards required for student athletes who transfer from a 4-  
19 year institution.

20 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
21 tion shall be construed to restrict the ability of an institu-  
22 tion to—

23 (1) require student athletes to meet or maintain  
24 academic standards that are in addition to, or more  
25 stringent than, the standards described in subsection

1 (a) if such standards are required of all students en-  
2 rolled at the institution;

3 (2) discipline or sanction a student athlete for  
4 violating a rule, regulation, or code of conduct that  
5 applies to all students enrolled at the institution; or

6 (3) discipline or sanction a student athlete for  
7 violating a rule, regulation, or a code of conduct that  
8 applies to all student athletes participating in inter-  
9 collegiate athletic competition at that institution.

10 **SEC. 114. PROHIBITED COMPENSATION AND AGREEMENTS.**

11 (a) CERTAIN AGREEMENTS AND COMPENSATION  
12 PROHIBITED.—An institution, an employee of an institu-  
13 tion, a volunteer of an institution, a conference, an em-  
14 ployee of a conference, or an associated entity shall not—

15 (1) except as provided in subsection (b), ar-  
16 range, provide, offer, or permit, directly or indi-  
17 rectly, compensation in an amount that would cir-  
18 cumvent or result in the institution exceeding the  
19 revenue share cap to—

20 (A) a student athlete, a group of student  
21 athletes, or their family members; or

22 (B) a prospective student athlete, a group  
23 of prospective student athletes, or their family  
24 members; or

1           (2) except for a name, image, and likeness  
2           agreement between a student athlete and an institu-  
3           tion or between a prospective student athlete and an  
4           institution, enter into a name, image, and likeness  
5           agreement with a student athlete or prospective stu-  
6           dent athlete that is not—

7                        (A) for a valid business purpose; and

8                        (B) commensurate with compensation paid  
9           to individuals with a similar profile, reputation,  
10          or notability who are not student athletes or  
11          prospective student athletes.

12          (b) **PERSONAL ATHLETIC AND EDUCATION BENE-**  
13 **FITS PERMITTED.**—An intercollegiate athletic association,  
14 a conference, an institution, or any representative thereof  
15 shall not, pursuant to the Injunctive Relief Settlement  
16 Agreement approved by the court in “In Re College Ath-  
17 lete NIL Litigation”, No. 20–cv–03919 (N.D. Cal. June  
18 6, 2025), restrict the ability of a student athlete enrolled  
19 at an institution to receive compensation from an inter-  
20 collegiate athletic association, an institution, a conference,  
21 or an associated entity, for personal benefits related to  
22 education or intercollegiate athletics, if those benefits  
23 are—

24                       (1) reasonable costs of transportation and tem-  
25           porary lodging for family members of a student ath-

1       lete while the student athlete is experiencing a docu-  
2       mented physical or mental health concern or partici-  
3       pating in an intercollegiate athletic competition;

4               (2) reasonable costs for meals, shelter, medical  
5       coverage, and medical expenses not provided or cov-  
6       ered by the institution; or

7               (3) reasonable education-related financial bene-  
8       fits, such as institution fees, books, or other inci-  
9       dental educational expenses that are not otherwise  
10      provided by the institution.

11      (c) VALID BUSINESS PURPOSE.—Except for a name,  
12      image, and likeness agreement with an institution, a  
13      name, image, and likeness agreement with a student ath-  
14      lete shall be for a valid business purpose.

15      (d) INSTITUTION DEFINED.—In this section, the  
16      term “institution” means—

17               (1) an institution of higher education, as that  
18      term is defined in section 101 of the Higher Edu-  
19      cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001); and

20               (2) an institution that is a party to, through  
21      membership in a conference or otherwise, “In Re  
22      College Athlete NIL Litigation”, No. 20-cv-03919  
23      (N.D. Cal. June 6, 2025), or has opted in to the In-  
24      junctive Relief Settlement in that case.

1 **SEC. 115. EXTENSION OF THE REVENUE SHARE CAP.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Upon expiration or termination of  
3 the Injunctive Relief Settlement Agreement approved by  
4 the court in “In Re College Athlete NIL Litigation”, No.  
5 20–cv–03919 (N.D. Cal. June 6, 2025), the revenue share  
6 cap shall continue to apply with respect to section 114(a),  
7 including any adjustments specified in subsection (b).

8 (b) ADJUSTMENT OF REVENUE SHARE CAP.—Upon  
9 expiration of the Injunctive Relief Settlement Agreement  
10 approved by the court in “In Re College Athlete NIL Liti-  
11 gation”, No. 20–cv–03919 (N.D. Cal. June 6, 2025), the  
12 annual revenue share cap shall be adjusted annually for  
13 inflation by the percent increase, if any, in the Consumer  
14 Price Index for All-Urban Consumers published by the  
15 Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor  
16 for the most recent 12-month period for which applicable  
17 data is available.

18 **SEC. 116. COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF COLLEGE ATH-**  
19 **LETICS.**

20 (a) COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF COLLEGE ATH-  
21 LETICS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within  
23 the legislative branch a commission, to be known as  
24 the “Congressional Commission on the Future of  
25 College Athletics” (referred to in this section as the

1       “Commission”), for the purpose of providing rec-  
2       ommendations on the future of college athletics.

3           (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the commission  
4       is to provide recommendations for the future of col-  
5       lege athletics.

6       (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

7           (1) COMPOSITION.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
8       the Commission shall be composed of 22 members,  
9       of whom—

10           (A) 4 members shall be appointed by the  
11       chair of the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
12       and Transportation, of which at least 1 member  
13       shall be a student athlete or former student  
14       athlete;

15           (B) 4 members shall be appointed by the  
16       ranking member of the Committee on Com-  
17       merce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-  
18       ate, of which at least 1 member shall be a stu-  
19       dent athlete or former student athlete;

20           (C) 4 members shall be appointed by the  
21       chair of the Committee on Energy and Com-  
22       merce of the House of Representatives, of which  
23       at least 1 member shall be a student athlete or  
24       former student athlete;

1 (D) 4 members shall be appointed by the  
2 ranking member of the Committee on Energy  
3 and Commerce of the House of Representatives,  
4 of which at least 1 member shall be a student  
5 athlete or former student athlete;

6 (E) 1 member shall be a current or former  
7 student athlete appointed by the majority leader  
8 of the Senate, in consultation with the chair of  
9 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
10 Transportation of the Senate;

11 (F) 1 member shall be a current or former  
12 student athlete appointed by the minority leader  
13 of the Senate, in consultation with the ranking  
14 member of the Committee on Commerce,  
15 Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

16 (G) 1 member shall be a current or former  
17 student athlete appointed by Speaker of the  
18 House of Representatives, in consultation with  
19 the chair of the Committee on Energy and  
20 Commerce of the House of Representatives;

21 (H) 1 member shall be a current or former  
22 student athlete appointed by the minority leader  
23 of the House of Representatives, in consultation  
24 with the ranking member of the Committee on

1 Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-  
2 resentatives;

3 (I) 1 member shall be a representative of  
4 a historically Black college or university, ap-  
5 pointed by the majority leader of the Senate;  
6 and

7 (J) 1 member shall be a representative of  
8 a historically Black college or university, ap-  
9 pointed by the Speaker of the House of Rep-  
10 resentatives.

11 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—Members of the Commis-  
12 sion shall be individuals who are nationally recog-  
13 nized for expertise, knowledge, or experience in mat-  
14 ters related to college athletics, university adminis-  
15 tration, sports law, labor law, athlete welfare, sports  
16 economics, health care, or sports medicine.

17 (3) CO-CHAIRS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, AND  
18 STAFF.—

19 (A) CO-CHAIRS.—The Commission shall  
20 have 2 co-chairs, of whom—

21 (i) 1 co-chair shall be a member se-  
22 lected by the majority party; and

23 (ii) 1 co-chair shall be a member se-  
24 lected by the minority party.

1 (B) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

2 The co-chairs of the Commission shall appoint  
3 an executive director of the Commission and  
4 such staff as appropriate, with compensation.

5 (4) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNI-  
6 VERSITY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term  
7 “historically Black college or university” has the  
8 meaning given the term “part B institution” in sec-  
9 tion 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20  
10 U.S.C. 1061).

11 (c) AUTHORITY.—The Commission may, for the pur-  
12 pose of carrying out the duties of the Commission—

13 (1) hold such hearings and sit and act at such  
14 times and places, take such testimony, receive such  
15 evidence, and administer such oaths; and

16 (2) require, by subpoena issued upon a majority  
17 vote of the Commission, the attendance and testi-  
18 mony of such witnesses and the production of such  
19 books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers,  
20 and documents as the Commission considers relevant  
21 to the purpose of the Commission.

22 (d) DUTIES.—The duties of the Commission are as  
23 follows:

24 (1) To study and develop recommendations re-  
25 garding—

1 (A) an alternative structure for providing  
2 compensation for student athletes, including  
3 consideration of the positive and negative impli-  
4 cations associated with a collective bargaining  
5 structure and employment status for student  
6 athletes;

7 (B) protecting and preserving athletic op-  
8 portunities for student athletes, particularly in  
9 non-revenue generating, women's, and Olympic  
10 sports intercollegiate athletic programs;

11 (C) whether any intercollegiate sport  
12 should be subject to spending or cost limita-  
13 tions;

14 (D) whether to eliminate, extend, or  
15 change the Pool Benefits Limit set forth in the  
16 Injunctive Relief Settlement Agreement as ap-  
17 proved or amended by the court in "In Re Col-  
18 lege Athlete NIL Litigation", No. 20-cv-03919  
19 (N.D. Cal. June 6, 2025);

20 (E) compliance with endorsement contract  
21 reporting requirements established by an ath-  
22 letic association or a conference;

23 (F) adequacy of health and safety stand-  
24 ards established pursuant to this title and com-  
25 pliance with those standards by institutions;

1 (G) the adequacy of the athlete agent pro-  
2 visions of this title;

3 (H) the extent to which student athletes  
4 experience abuse or mistreatment and measures  
5 that could protect student athletes from such  
6 abuse or mistreatment;

7 (I) the benefits of the intercollegiate ath-  
8 letic system, including consideration of how the  
9 balance of education and athletics impacts the  
10 life skills, educational opportunities, leadership  
11 skills, character development, and personal  
12 growth of the student athlete; and

13 (J) any other recommendations regarding  
14 intercollegiate athletics.

15 (2) To draft a joint resolution of approval  
16 under subsection (i) that provides for implementa-  
17 tion of the recommendation of the Commission on  
18 whether to eliminate, raise, or lower the Pool Bene-  
19 fits Limit in section 114(a).

20 (3) Not later than 5 years after the date of the  
21 enactment of this Act, to submit a report on the ac-  
22 tivities of the Commission, including recommenda-  
23 tions for such legislative action as the Commission  
24 considers appropriate to—

1 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
2 and Transportation of the Senate;

3 (B) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
4 merce of the House of Representatives; and

5 (C) the President.

6 (e) QUORUM.—Eleven members of the Commission,  
7 of which 4 members shall be current or former student  
8 athletes, shall constitute a quorum.

9 (f) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall hold  
10 an initial meeting not later than 30 days after the date  
11 on which a sufficient number of members have been ap-  
12 pointed under subsection (b) to constitute a quorum pur-  
13 suant to subsection (e).

14 (g) PUBLIC HEARINGS.—The Commission shall hold  
15 1 or more public hearings.

16 (h) STATUS.—The Commission is not an agency (as  
17 defined in section 551 of title 5, United States Code).

18 (i) JOINT RESOLUTION.—Any Member of Congress  
19 may introduce a joint resolution for consideration to adopt  
20 any of the recommendations of the Commission, in whole  
21 or in part, including any recommendations from the Com-  
22 mission on whether to eliminate, raise, or lower the Pool  
23 Benefits Limit.

1 (j) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate  
2 90 days after the date on which the Commission submits  
3 the report required by this section.

4 (k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
5 authorized to be appropriated to the Commission such  
6 sums as may be necessary in any fiscal year, half of which  
7 shall be derived from the applicable account of the House  
8 of Representatives and half of which shall be derived from  
9 the contingent fund of the Senate.

10 **SEC. 117. RECRUITMENT AND TAMPERING.**

11 An intercollegiate athletic association may enforce  
12 provisions on recruitment and tampering of student ath-  
13 letes or prospective student athletes before and during  
14 their eligibility for intercollegiate athletic competition  
15 that—

16 (1) prohibit an institution, an employee of an  
17 institution, a conference, an employee of a con-  
18 ference, or an associated entity from contacting a  
19 student athlete who is enrolled at or committed to  
20 another institution for the purpose of recruiting that  
21 student athlete to transfer to or enroll at an institu-  
22 tion except for during the 5 consecutive weeks start-  
23 ing 7 days after the last intercollegiate athletic com-  
24 petition in an academic year in the intercollegiate  
25 sport in which the student athlete competes and in

1       which student athletes from the same intercollegiate  
2       athletic association competed;

3           (2) prohibit an athlete agent from contacting  
4       an institution, employee of an institution, or institu-  
5       tion associated on behalf of a student athlete who is  
6       enrolled at or committed to another institution for  
7       the purpose of facilitating the transfer or enrollment  
8       of the student athlete at the contacted institution ex-  
9       cept for during the 5 consecutive weeks starting 7  
10      days after the last intercollegiate athletic competi-  
11     tion in an academic year in the intercollegiate sport  
12     in which the student athlete competes and in which  
13     student athletes from the same intercollegiate ath-  
14     letic association competed;

15           (3) prohibit an institution, an employee of an  
16      institution, a conference, an employee of a con-  
17      ference, an associated entity, or an athlete agent  
18      from recruiting or contacting a student athlete or  
19      prospective student athlete who has not affirmatively  
20      opted in to receive such recruitment or contact; or

21           (4) prohibit an institution, an employee of an  
22      institution, a volunteer of an institution, an associ-  
23      ated entity, an athlete agent, a conference, an em-  
24      ployee of a conference, or a volunteer of a conference  
25      from inducing a student athlete to enroll at an insti-

1           tution or transfer to an institution by offering com-  
2           pensation to a student athlete in violation of para-  
3           graphs (1), (2), or (3).

4 **SEC. 118. LIMITATION ON LIABILITY.**

5           (a) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be unlawful under the  
6 antitrust laws for an intercollegiate athletic association,  
7 a conference, or an institution to enforce or comply with,  
8 including through rules or bylaws—

9           (1) section 114;

10           (2) section 115;

11           (3) section 113;

12           (4) sections 101(a)(3) and 101(b)(1) and sub-  
13 paragraphs (A) and (B) of section 101(b)(2);

14           (5) section 117;

15           (6) section 112;

16           (7) rules, bylaws, or requirements of an inter-  
17 collegiate athletic association that determine whether  
18 a specific institution is selected to participate in a  
19 championship or tournament if the process for se-  
20 lecting participants is not entitled to antitrust ex-  
21 emption under this subsection;

22           (8) section 103; and

23           (9) section 110.

24           (b) SANCTIONS BY AN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC  
25 ASSOCIATION.—It shall not be unlawful under the anti-

1 trust laws for an intercollegiate athletic association to, in-  
2 cluding through rules or bylaws—

3 (1) impose a fine against an institution, an em-  
4 ployee, or volunteer of an institution, a conference,  
5 an employee of a conference, or an associated entity  
6 for a violation of sections 110, 112, 113, 114, or  
7 115;

8 (2) restrict an institution, employee or volun-  
9 teer of an institution, a conference, or an employee  
10 of a conference, from participation in intercollegiate  
11 athletic competition, including championships or  
12 tournaments, for a violation of sections 110, 112,  
13 113, 114, or 115;

14 (3) restrict the eligibility of a student athlete  
15 who—

16 (A) is not eligible to participate in inter-  
17 collegiate athletic competition or participate on  
18 a varsity sports team under section 113;

19 (B) has transferred to an institution in a  
20 manner that does not comply with section 112;  
21 or

22 (C) has received compensation in con-  
23 travention of section 114 or section 115; or

1           (4) decertify an athlete agent for violations of  
2       section 103 or the amendments made by section  
3       102.

4       (c) REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INTERCOLLEGIATE ATH-  
5       LETIC ASSOCIATION.—An intercollegiate athletic associa-  
6       tion shall not be entitled to the antitrust exemptions set  
7       forth in subsections (a) and (b) unless the intercollegiate  
8       athletic association has established rules, bylaws, or other  
9       regulations implementing paragraphs (1) through (9) of  
10      subsection (a) and paragraphs (1) through (4) of sub-  
11      section (b).

12      **SEC. 119. PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.**

13      (a) VIOLATIONS.—A person may file a civil action in  
14      an appropriate district court of the United States or in  
15      an appropriate State court only for a violation of the fol-  
16      lowing:

- 17           (1) Subsections (a) and (c) of section 101.  
18           (2) Section 104.  
19           (3) Section 105.  
20           (4) Section 106.  
21           (5) Section 107.  
22           (6) Section 108.  
23           (7) Section 109.  
24           (8) Section 111.  
25           (9) Section 112, only to the extent the claim—

1 (A) alleges an intercollegiate athletic asso-  
2 ciation, a conference, or an institution has not  
3 complied with the transfer standard set forth in  
4 section 112;

5 (B) is filed against a Division I, Division  
6 II, or Division III institution, as defined by  
7 bylaw 20 of the National Collegiate Athletic As-  
8 sociation as of the date of the enactment of this  
9 Act, or an intercollegiate athletic association or  
10 a conference comprised of any such institutions;  
11 and

12 (C) is filed in an appropriate district court  
13 of the United States.

14 (10) Section 113, only to the extent the claim—

15 (A) alleges an intercollegiate athletic asso-  
16 ciation, a conference, or an institution has not  
17 complied with the eligibility standard set forth  
18 in section 113;

19 (B) is filed against a Division I, Division  
20 II, or Division III institution, as defined by  
21 bylaw 20 of the National Collegiate Athletic As-  
22 sociation as of the date of the enactment of this  
23 Act, or an intercollegiate athletic association or  
24 a conference comprised of any such institutions;  
25 and

1 (C) is filed in an appropriate district court  
2 of the United States.

3 (11) Section 114(b).

4 (b) LIMITATION.—The protection from antitrust li-  
5 ability set forth in section 118 shall not be limited by a  
6 private right of action filed under subsection (a).

7 (c) RELIEF.—In a civil action brought under sub-  
8 section (a) in which the plaintiff prevails, the court may  
9 award the plaintiff—

10 (1) actual damages; and

11 (2) any other relief, including equitable relief or  
12 declaratory relief, that the court determines appro-  
13 priate (including attorney's fees, if otherwise allowed  
14 under applicable law).

15 (d) LIMITATION ON PRE-DISPUTE AGREEMENTS AND  
16 WAIVERS.—

17 (1) PRE-DISPUTE ARBITRATION AGREEMENT.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any  
19 other provision of law, no intercollegiate athletic  
20 association, conference, or institution shall in-  
21 clude a pre-dispute arbitration agreement (as  
22 defined in section 401 of title 9, United States  
23 Code) in an agreement with a student athlete  
24 regarding a provision of this title or an amend-  
25 ment made to this title.

1 (B) TREATMENT OF CLAIM.—If a claim for  
2 a violation of this title arises, a student athlete  
3 has the option to arbitrate the dispute if the  
4 intercollegiate athletic association, conference,  
5 or institution agrees to the arbitration.

6 (2) PRE-DISPUTE JOINT-ACTION WAIVER.—Not-  
7 withstanding any other provision of law, no inter-  
8 collegiate athletic association or conference shall en-  
9 force a pre-dispute joint-action waiver (as defined in  
10 section 401 of title 9, United States Code) against  
11 a student athlete or group of student athletes with  
12 respect to a dispute arising under this title or an  
13 amendment made to this title, so long as there are  
14 not fewer than 7 named plaintiffs.

15 (e) DISPUTES ARISING FROM ENFORCEMENT OF IN-  
16 JUNCTIVE RELIEF SETTLEMENT.—Notwithstanding sub-  
17 section (d)—

18 (1) a claim made by any entity or individual  
19 subject to the injunctive relief provisions in “In Re  
20 College Athlete NIL Litigation”, No. 20–cv–03919  
21 (N.D. Cal. June 6, 2025), regarding whether a  
22 name, image, or likeness agreement is for a valid  
23 business purpose shall follow the procedure set forth  
24 in article 6, section 2, of such settlement; and

1           (2) in any dispute regarding whether an institu-  
2           tion, an employee of an institution, a volunteer of an  
3           institution, a conference, an employee of a con-  
4           ference, or an associated entity complied with para-  
5           graph (1) or (2) of section 114(a), an institution, an  
6           employee of an institution, a volunteer of an institu-  
7           tion, a conference, an employee of a conference, or  
8           an associated entity shall follow the procedure set  
9           forth in article 6, section 2 of “In Re College Athlete  
10          NIL Litigation”, No. 20–cv–03919 (N.D. Cal. June  
11          6, 2025).

12          (f) NOTICE REQUIREMENT FOR CIVIL ACTIONS.—

13           (1) IN GENERAL.—A civil action may be  
14           brought by a person under this section only if, prior  
15           to filing such action, the plaintiff provides to the de-  
16           fendant 60 days written notice identifying the spe-  
17           cific provisions set forth in subsection (a) that the  
18           plaintiff alleges have been or are being violated.

19           (2) EFFECT OF CURE.—In the event a cure is  
20           possible, if, within the 60-day period under para-  
21           graph (1), the defendant cures the violation and pro-  
22           vides the plaintiff with an express written statement  
23           that the violation has been cured and no such fur-  
24           ther violation shall occur, an action shall not be per-  
25           mitted.

1 **SEC. 120. WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—No institution, conference, or  
3 intercollegiate athletic association, or any agent thereof,  
4 may discharge, demote, suspend, withdraw or reduce bene-  
5 fits from, threaten, harass, or in any other manner dis-  
6 criminate against an employee, a student athlete, a pro-  
7 spective student athlete, a former student athlete, a con-  
8 tractor, a subcontractor, a service provider, or an agent  
9 of an institution, a conference, or an intercollegiate ath-  
10 letic association because of any lawful act done by such  
11 individual—

12 (1) to provide information to, or cause informa-  
13 tion to be provided to, an agency of the Federal  
14 Government, an agency of State government, Con-  
15 gress, or any law enforcement agency regarding any  
16 act or omission that such individual reasonably be-  
17 lieves to be a violation of this title; or

18 (2) to file, cause to be filed, testify, participate  
19 in, or otherwise assist in a proceeding filed or about  
20 to be filed relating to an alleged violation of this  
21 title.

22 (b) ENFORCEMENT ACTION.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—An individual aggrieved by a  
24 violation of subsection (a) may bring an action in  
25 the appropriate district court of the United States  
26 for the relief set forth in paragraph (2).

1           (2) RELIEF.—An individual prevailing in any  
2           action under paragraph (1) may obtain—

3                   (A) compensatory damages and the cost of  
4           the action, including reasonable attorney's fees  
5           and other litigation costs reasonably incurred;

6                   (B) in addition to any other relief available  
7           at law, equitable relief that may be necessary or  
8           appropriate to correct a violation of subsection  
9           (a) or make the individual whole again;

10                  (C) temporary relief while the case is pend-  
11           ing; and

12                  (D) if the prevailing individual is an em-  
13           ployee—

14                          (i) reinstatement with the same se-  
15           niority status that the individual would  
16           have had, but for the discrimination; and

17                          (ii) backpay otherwise owed to the in-  
18           dividual, with interest.

19           (e) RIGHTS RETAINED BY INDIVIDUAL.—Nothing in  
20           this section shall be construed to diminish the rights, privi-  
21           leges, or remedies of any individual under any Federal or  
22           State law, or under any labor contract.

23           (d) NONENFORCEABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
24           WAIVING RIGHTS AND REMEDIES OR REQUIRING ARBI-  
25           TRATION OF DISPUTES.—

1           (1) WAIVER OF RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—The  
2 rights and remedies provided for in this section may  
3 not be waived by any agreement, policy form, condi-  
4 tion of employment, or athletic agreement or partici-  
5 pation.

6           (2) PREDISPUTE ARBITRATION AGREEMENTS.—  
7 No predispute arbitration agreement shall be valid  
8 or enforceable if the agreement requires arbitration  
9 of a dispute arising under this section.

10 **SEC. 121. RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING LAW.**

11       (a) IN GENERAL.—No State or political subdivision  
12 of a State may adopt, maintain, enforce, or continue in  
13 effect any law, regulation, rule, requirement, or standard  
14 that—

15           (1) conflicts with any provision of this title that  
16 would prevent compliance with this title; or

17           (2) governs, regulates, or invalidates policies or  
18 rules of an institution, a conference, or an intercolle-  
19 giate athletic association that regulates—

20               (A) the compensation to a student athlete  
21 or prospective student athlete for the use of  
22 their name, image, or likeness, except as nec-  
23 essary to comply with this title;

24               (B) transfers of student athletes between  
25 institutions; or

1 (C) any provision described in section 113  
2 relating to the eligibility of a student athlete to  
3 participate in intercollegiate athletics.

4 (b) PRESERVATION OF STATE LAWS.—The following  
5 State laws, rules, regulations, or requirements, or common  
6 law rights or remedies shall not be preempted, displaced,  
7 or supplanted:

8 (1) Except to the extent that such law rule, reg-  
9 ulation, requirement, or common law right or rem-  
10 edy conflicts with subsection (a), the following:

11 (A) Uniform Athlete Agent Acts.

12 (B) Civil rights laws.

13 (C) Tort law, unless otherwise specified in  
14 paragraph (2).

15 (D) Criminal law.

16 (E) Laws that relate to student or campus  
17 safety.

18 (F) Fraud.

19 (G) Privacy or data breach.

20 (H) Contract law.

21 (I) Trademark law.

22 (J) Copyright law.

23 (K) Consumer protection law.

24 (2) Except to the extent that such law conflicts  
25 with subsection (a)(2), any law, whether statutory or

1 common law, that gives rise to a cause of action for  
2 the following:

3 (A) Personal injury, including psycho-  
4 logical injury.

5 (B) Wrongful death.

6 (C) Property damage.

7 (D) Sexual assault.

8 (E) Injury.

9 (F) Harassment.

10 (G) Any cause of action derivative of any  
11 of subparagraphs (A) through (F).

12 (c) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

13 (1) ANTITRUST LAWS.—To the extent liability  
14 for violations of the antitrust laws is not limited by  
15 this title, subsection (a) shall not be construed to  
16 preempt, displace, or supplant the antitrust laws.

17 (2) FEDERAL TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT  
18 LAW.—Nothing in this title or the amendments  
19 made by this title may be construed to override,  
20 modify, or amend the applicability of Federal trade-  
21 mark or copyright law.

22 **SEC. 122. NEUTRALITY ON EMPLOYEE OR NON-EMPLOYEE**  
23 **STATUS.**

24 This title is neutral on, and does nothing to alter,  
25 employee or non-employee status for student athletes.

1 **SEC. 123. APPLICABILITY.**

2 Section 113(e)(1)(B) shall apply with respect to any  
3 action or proceeding that is pending on or commenced on  
4 or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

5 **SEC. 124. SEVERABILITY.**

6 If any provision of this title, or an amendment made  
7 by this title, is determined to be unenforceable or invalid,  
8 the remaining provisions of this title and the amendments  
9 made by this title shall not be affected.

10 **SEC. 125. PROTECTION OF WOMEN'S SPORTS AND OLYMPIC**  
11 **SPORTS.**

12 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—An intercollegiate athletic associa-  
13 tion or conference comprised of Division I institutions, as  
14 defined by bylaw 20.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic  
15 Association, or a successor bylaw, shall not reduce the  
16 minimum intercollegiate athletic competitions, minimum  
17 participants on a varsity sports team, or the number of  
18 varsity sports teams, including the number of men's and  
19 women's varsity sports teams or Olympic varsity sports  
20 teams, that an institution must sponsor for membership  
21 within—

22 (1) Division I of the National Collegiate Ath-  
23 letic Association, as defined by bylaw 20.9 of the  
24 National Collegiate Athletic Association, or a suc-  
25 cessor bylaw; or



1 counts for not less than 45 percent of the  
2 total expenses of the athletic department of  
3 the institution;

4 (ii) compliance with paragraph (1)  
5 would materially impair the ability of the  
6 institution to comply with Federal law; or

7 (iii) there are extraordinary cir-  
8 cumstances relating to financial hardship,  
9 including from a natural disaster, act of  
10 war, or another catastrophe, that are be-  
11 yond the control of the institution or mate-  
12 rially impair the ability of the institution  
13 to comply with paragraph (1).

14 (B) CONDITION.—As a condition of seek-  
15 ing a waiver under subparagraph (A)(i), an in-  
16 stitution shall first reduce the total compensa-  
17 tion of the coaching staff of its revenue-gener-  
18 ating varsity sports programs by the same pro-  
19 portion as any planned reduction in expendi-  
20 tures for its non-revenue generating intercolle-  
21 giate sports programs during the waiver period.

22 (3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

23 (A) INSTITUTION.—The term “institution”  
24 means an institution, as defined by bylaw 20.9  
25 of the National Collegiate Athletic Association,

1 or a successor bylaw, that, upon the date of the  
2 enactment of this Act, reports, as required  
3 under section 485(g) of the Higher Education  
4 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092(g)), having gen-  
5 erated not less than \$80,000,000 in total an-  
6 nual athletics revenue during the preceding aca-  
7 demic year.

8 (B) NON-REVENUE GENERATING INTER-  
9 COLLEGIATE SPORTS PROGRAM.—the term  
10 “non-revenue generating intercollegiate sports  
11 program” means an intercollegiate sports pro-  
12 gram at an institution for which, during an aca-  
13 demic year, the revenues generated specifically  
14 attributable to that sports program are less  
15 than the direct and allocated operating expenses  
16 of that sports program.

17 (4) SUNSET.—This subsection shall terminate  
18 on the date that is 9 years after the date of the en-  
19 actment of this Act.

20 (c) TRANSITIONAL PROTECTION FOR WOMEN’S AND  
21 OLYMPIC SPORTS AT MID-SIZED INSTITUTIONS.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
23 graph (2), an intercollegiate athletic association or  
24 conference comprised of covered mid-sized institu-  
25 tions shall provide that each such institution shall,

1 consistent with applicable intercollegiate athletic as-  
2 sociation rules, offer and maintain at least as many  
3 total grant-in-aid opportunities and roster spots for  
4 non-revenue generating intercollegiate sports pro-  
5 grams, including women's and Olympic intercolle-  
6 giate sports programs, during each academic year as  
7 the institution provided during academic year 2024-  
8 2025.

9 (2) EXEMPTIONS.—An institution shall be ex-  
10 empt from the requirement under paragraph (1) for  
11 an academic year if—

12 (A) the total annual athletics revenue of  
13 the institution, as reported under section  
14 485(g) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
15 (20 U.S.C. 1092(g)), declined by not less than  
16 15 percent from the immediately preceding aca-  
17 demic year;

18 (B) the institution petitions the relevant  
19 intercollegiate athletic association for, and is  
20 granted, an exemption based on a demonstrable  
21 financial hardship;

22 (C) compliance with that paragraph would  
23 materially impair the ability of the institution  
24 to comply with Federal law; or

1 (D) there are extraordinary circumstances  
2 relating to financial hardship, including from a  
3 natural disaster, act of war, or other cir-  
4 cumstance that is beyond the control of the in-  
5 stitution or materially impair the ability of the  
6 institution to comply with that paragraph.

7 (3) COVERED MID-SIZED INSTITUTION DE-  
8 FINED.—In this subsection, the term “covered mid-  
9 sized institution” means an institution, as defined by  
10 bylaw 20.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic Asso-  
11 ciation, or a successor bylaw, that, upon the date of  
12 the enactment of this Act, reports, as required under  
13 section 485(g) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
14 (20 U.S.C. 1092(g)), having generated not less than  
15 \$50,000,000 but less than \$80,000,000 in total an-  
16 nual athletics revenue during the preceding academic  
17 year.

18 (4) SUNSET.—This subsection shall terminate  
19 on the date that is 4 years after the date of the en-  
20 actment of this Act.

21 **TITLE II—SPORTS**  
22 **BROADCASTING**

23 **SEC. 201. DEFINITIONS.**

24 (a) REFERENCES TO SPORTS BROADCASTING ACT OF  
25 1961.—In this Act, the term “Sports Broadcasting Act

1 of 1961” means the Act of September 30, 1961 (15  
2 U.S.C. 1291 et seq.).

3 (b) AMENDMENTS TO SPORTS BROADCASTING ACT  
4 OF 1961.—The Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961 is  
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating sections 5 and 6 (15  
7 U.S.C. 1295, 1291 note) as sections 8 and 9, respec-  
8 tively; and

9 (2) in section 8, as so redesignated—

10 (A) by striking “As used in this Act, ‘per-  
11 sons’ means” and inserting the following: “As  
12 used in this Act:”

13 “(12) PERSONS.—The term ‘persons’ means”;

14 (B) by inserting before paragraph (12), as  
15 so designated, the following:

16 “(1) COLLECTIVE MEDIA RIGHTS REVENUE.—

17 The term ‘collective media rights revenue’ means  
18 revenue derived from the sale or transfer of the  
19 media rights of the member institutions and member  
20 conferences of the covered entity resulting from the  
21 joint agreement described in section 5.

22 “(2) CONFERENCE.—The term ‘conference’  
23 means any organization that is not an intercollegiate  
24 athletic association and that—

1           “(A) has 2 or more institutions as mem-  
2           bers; and

3           “(B) arranges championships for inter-  
4           collegiate athletic competitions or sets rules for  
5           intercollegiate athletic competitions.

6           “(3) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered en-  
7           tity’ means the entity formed by a joint agreement  
8           of institutions or conferences described in subpara-  
9           graph (A) or (B) of section 5(b)(1) that meets each  
10          of the requirements under section 5.

11          “(4) GRANT-IN-AID.—The term ‘grant-in-aid’—

12           “(A) means a scholarship, grant, stipend,  
13           or other form of financial assistance, including  
14           the provision of tuition, room, board, books, or  
15           funds for fees or personal expenses, that—

16           “(i) is paid or provided by an institu-  
17           tion to a student for the undergraduate or  
18           graduate course of study of the student;  
19           and

20           “(ii) is in an amount that does not ex-  
21           ceed the cost of attendance for the student  
22           at the institution; and

23           “(B) does not include compensation paid  
24           to an individual who is a student athlete or a  
25           former student athlete.



1                   “(B) includes—

2                   “ (i) the National Collegiate Athletic  
3                   Association; and

4                   “ (ii) any other national intercollegiate  
5                   athletic association; and

6                   “(C) does not include a corporation, asso-  
7                   ciation, or other group affiliated with profes-  
8                   sional athletic competition.

9                   “(7) INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC COMPETI-  
10                  TION.—The term ‘intercollegiate athletic competi-  
11                  tion’ means any varsity intercollegiate sport contest,  
12                  game, meet, match, tournament, regatta, or other  
13                  intercollegiate sport event in which student athletes  
14                  or varsity sports teams compete.

15                  “(8) INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL.—The term  
16                  ‘intercollegiate football’ means the intercollegiate  
17                  sport of football.

18                  “(9) INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORT.—The term  
19                  ‘intercollegiate sport’—

20                  “(A) means a sport played at the inter-  
21                  collegiate level, administered by an athletic de-  
22                  partment, between institutions for which eligi-  
23                  bility requirements for participation by a stu-  
24                  dent athlete are established by an intercolle-  
25                  giate athletic association; and

1                   “(B) does not include a recreational, intra-  
2                   mural, or club sport.

3                   “(10) MEMBER CONFERENCE.—The term  
4                   ‘member conference’, with respect to the covered en-  
5                   tity, means a conference that is a member of the  
6                   covered entity.

7                   “(11) MEMBER INSTITUTION.—The term ‘mem-  
8                   ber institution’, with respect to the covered entity,  
9                   means an institution that is a member of the cov-  
10                  ered entity.”; and

11                  (C) by inserting after paragraph (12), as  
12                  so redesignated, the following:

13                  “(13) STUDENT ATHLETE.—The term ‘student  
14                  athlete’ means an individual who—

15                         “(A) is enrolled as a full-time student at  
16                         an institution;

17                         “(B) makes satisfactory progress towards  
18                         completing a degree; and

19                         “(C) participates in intercollegiate athletic  
20                         competitions or competes for a varsity sports  
21                         team as part of the institution’s educational,  
22                         developmental, or extracurricular programs.

23                  “(14) TOP 5 HISTORIC OPPONENTS IN INTER-  
24                  COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL.—The term ‘top 5 historic  
25                  opponents in intercollegiate football’, with respect to

1 an institution, means the 5 other institutions against  
2 which the institution has played the most intercolle-  
3 giate athletic competitions within intercollegiate  
4 football.

5 “(15) TOP 10 HISTORIC OPPONENTS IN INTER-  
6 COLLEGIATE FOOTBALL.—The term ‘top 10 historic  
7 opponents in intercollegiate football’, with respect to  
8 an institution, means the 10 other institutions  
9 against which the institution has played the most  
10 intercollegiate athletic competitions within intercolle-  
11 giate football.

12 “(16) TRADITIONAL RIVALRY.—The term ‘tra-  
13 ditional rivalry’ means an intercollegiate athletic  
14 competition within intercollegiate football that is be-  
15 tween varsity sports teams of 2 institutions that—

16 “(A) are both members of the covered enti-  
17 ty;

18 “(B) are not members of the same con-  
19 ference; and

20 “(C) rank among each other’s top 10 his-  
21 toric opponents in intercollegiate football.

22 “(17) VARSITY SPORTS TEAM.—The term ‘var-  
23 sity sports team’ means a team composed of student  
24 athletes that is organized by an institution for the  
25 purpose of intercollegiate athletic competitions.”.

1 **SEC. 202. LIMITATION ON LIABILITY FOR TRANSMISSION**  
2 **OF COLLEGIATE SPORTS COMPETITIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of the Sports Broad-  
4 casting Act of 1961 (15 U.S.C. 1291) is amended—

5 (1) by striking “That the” and inserting the  
6 following:

7 **“SECTION 1. EXEMPTION OF CERTAIN AGREEMENTS FROM**  
8 **ANTITRUST LAWS.**

9 “(a) PROFESSIONAL SPORTS.—The”; and

10 (2) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(b) COLLEGE SPORTS.—The antitrust laws, as de-  
12 fined in subsection (a), shall not apply to any joint agree-  
13 ment, by or among institutions engaging in or conducting  
14 organized intercollegiate sports, or conferences that have  
15 such institutions as members, to form and operate a cov-  
16 ered entity that complies with and enforces the require-  
17 ments of section 5 and sells or otherwise transfers to a  
18 third party all or any part of the rights of the institutions  
19 or conferences in the sponsored telecasting of the inter-  
20 collegiate athletic competitions engaged in or conducted by  
21 the institutions or conferences.”.

22 (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

23 The Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961 is amended—

24 (1) in section 2 (15 U.S.C. 1292)—

25 (A) by striking “Section 1” and inserting

26 “Section 1(a)”; and

1 (B) by striking “in section 1” and insert-  
2 ing “in section 1(a)”;

3 (2) in section 3 (15 U.S.C. 1293), by striking  
4 “section 1” each place it appears and inserting “sec-  
5 tion 1(a)”;

6 (3) in section 4 (15 U.S.C. 1294), by striking  
7 “section 1” and inserting “section 1(a)”.

8 **SEC. 203. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTITIES SELLING MEDIA**  
9 **RIGHTS.**

10 The Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961, as amended  
11 by section 201(b)(1) of this Act, is amended by inserting  
12 after section 4 (15 U.S.C. 1294) the following:

13 **“SEC. 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTITIES SELLING MEDIA**  
14 **RIGHTS.**

15 “(a) **CONDITION ON ANTITRUST EXEMPTION.**—Sec-  
16 tion 1(b) shall not apply to any joint agreement entered  
17 into by institutions or conferences to form the covered en-  
18 tity unless the covered entity complies with the require-  
19 ments under this section and section 6.

20 “(b) **MEMBERSHIP OF THE COVERED ENTITY.**—

21 “(1) **ELIGIBLE MEMBERSHIP.**—A joint agree-  
22 ment to form the covered entity shall be comprised  
23 of a voluntary association of institutions or con-  
24 ferences that includes, at a minimum, as of the date  
25 on which the joint agreement is entered into, not

1 less than 75 percent of the institutions participating  
2 in the Football Bowl Subdivision, as defined by  
3 Bylaw 20.9.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic As-  
4 sociation.

5 “(2) INVITATION REQUIREMENT.—

6 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The covered entity  
7 shall offer membership on fair and nondiscrim-  
8 inatory terms to each conference and each insti-  
9 tution that is in Division I, as defined by Bylaw  
10 20.9 of the National Collegiate Athletic Associa-  
11 tion as of the date of enactment of the Protect  
12 College Sports Act of 2026.

13 “(B) OPTIONAL PARTICIPATION.—No con-  
14 ference or institution shall be required to join  
15 the covered entity or accept an offer under sub-  
16 paragraph (A), but no conference or institution  
17 eligible for membership under subparagraph  
18 (A) may be refused an invitation to join the  
19 covered entity.

20 “(c) VOTING RIGHTS.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

22 “(A) VOTES OF CONFERENCES AND INSTI-  
23 TUTIONS.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the  
24 covered entity shall—



1 decision or determination described in  
2 paragraph (2)(C).

3 “(C) NON-VOTING MEMBER CON-  
4 FERENCES.—If a conference and 1 or more of  
5 the institutions of the conference are members  
6 of the covered entity, the conference shall be a  
7 non-voting member of the covered entity.

8 “(2) VOTING THRESHOLDS.—

9 “(A) MAJOR DECISIONS.—A major deci-  
10 sion, as defined by the bylaws of the covered  
11 entity, shall require a vote totaling not less than  
12  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the member conferences or member insti-  
13 tutions exercising their voting rights.

14 “(B) NON-MAJOR DECISIONS.—A non-  
15 major decision, as defined by the bylaws of the  
16 covered entity, shall require a vote totaling not  
17 less than a majority of the member conferences  
18 or member institutions exercising their voting  
19 rights.

20 “(C) REVENUE DISTRIBUTIONS OR  
21 CHANGES TO VOTING ALLOCATIONS.—A deter-  
22 mination regarding the allocation of collective  
23 media rights revenue or a decision to change a  
24 voting threshold described in this paragraph  
25 shall require a unanimous vote of the member

1 conferences, member institutions, or current or  
2 former student athletes exercising their voting  
3 rights.

4 “(D) MEDIA RIGHTS REQUIREMENT.—A  
5 determination of which media rights shall be  
6 contributed to the covered entity pursuant to  
7 subsection (f) shall require a unanimous vote of  
8 the member conferences or member institutions  
9 exercising their voting rights.

10 “(d) REVENUE ALLOCATION FORMULA.—

11 “(1) METHOD.—Not less frequently than once  
12 each academic year, the covered entity shall dis-  
13 tribute the collective media rights revenue among  
14 member conferences and member institutions—

15 “(A) according to the allocation of collec-  
16 tive media rights revenue most recently deter-  
17 mined in accordance with subsection (c)(2)(C);  
18 and

19 “(B) in accordance with the requirements  
20 of this subsection.

21 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The distribution of col-  
22 lective media rights revenue under paragraph (1)  
23 shall—

24 “(A) ensure that—

1                   “(i) each member conference or mem-  
2                   ber institution receives a minimum dis-  
3                   tribution of collective media rights revenue,  
4                   the amount of which shall be established  
5                   under a bylaw adopted in accordance with  
6                   subsection (c)(2)(C); and

7                   “(ii) each member institution receives  
8                   more collective media rights revenue (ex-  
9                   cluding revenue from the College Football  
10                  Playoff) during each academic year than  
11                  the largest amount of collective media  
12                  rights revenue (excluding revenue from the  
13                  College Football Playoff) that the institu-  
14                  tion received in any single academic year  
15                  during the period of academic year 2021–  
16                  2022 through academic year 2024–2025;

17                  “(B) distribute not less than 15 percent of  
18                  the collective media rights revenue that remains  
19                  after compliance with subparagraph (A) equally  
20                  among all member institutions that received  
21                  revenue from intercollegiate athletic competi-  
22                  tions within intercollegiate football in the Foot-  
23                  ball Bowl Subdivision during academic year  
24                  2024–2025; and

1           “(C) distribute the collective media rights  
2           revenue that remains after compliance with sub-  
3           paragraphs (A) and (B) to member institutions  
4           based on the performance of each institution  
5           during the academic year with respect to the in-  
6           stitution’s contribution to the collective media  
7           rights revenue.

8           “(3) TRANSFER OF REVENUE.—Before distrib-  
9           uting collective media rights revenue under para-  
10          graph (1), the covered entity shall, in accordance  
11          with section 106, transfer an amount of collective  
12          media rights revenue to the fund or program estab-  
13          lished under that section to ensure that the program  
14          or fund is adequately funded.

15          “(e) PROTECTION OF WOMEN’S AND OLYMPIC  
16          SPORTS.—

17          “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any member institution  
18          that receives collective media rights revenue shall,  
19          consistent with applicable intercollegiate athletic as-  
20          sociation rules, offer and maintain at least as many  
21          grant-in-aid opportunities and roster spots for non-  
22          revenue generating intercollegiate sports programs,  
23          including women’s and Olympic intercollegiate sports  
24          programs, during each academic year as the member

1 institution provided during the 2024–2025 academic  
2 year.

3 “(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sub-  
4 section, the term ‘non-revenue generating intercolle-  
5 giate sports program’ means an intercollegiate  
6 sports program at an institution for which, during  
7 an academic year, the revenues generated specifically  
8 attributable to that sports program are less than the  
9 direct and allocated operating expenses of that  
10 sports program.

11 “(f) CONTRIBUTION OF MEDIA RIGHTS.—

12 “(1) CONDITION OF PARTICIPATION.—The cov-  
13 ered entity shall require each member institution or  
14 member conference, as a condition of receiving a dis-  
15 tribution of collective media rights revenue from the  
16 covered entity, to contribute to the covered entity,  
17 for sale by the covered entity, the media rights of  
18 the member institution or member conference, deter-  
19 mined by a vote described in subsection (c)(2)(D),  
20 with the exception of the rights in the sponsored  
21 telecasting of the basketball tournaments organized  
22 by the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

23 “(2) EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY.—The covered en-  
24 tity shall have the exclusive authority to negotiate,  
25 sell, license, sublicense, and otherwise transfer on a

1 pooled basis media rights contributed under para-  
2 graph (1), with the exception of the rights in the  
3 sponsored telecasting of the basketball tournaments  
4 organized by the National Collegiate Athletic Asso-  
5 ciation.

6 “(3) BINDING AGREEMENT.—The covered enti-  
7 ty shall maintain a written agreement, binding on all  
8 member institutions or member conferences, that  
9 governs the collection and distribution of collective  
10 media rights revenue for the duration of the agree-  
11 ment.

12 “(g) PRESERVATION OF CONFERENCE OPPONENTS  
13 AND TRADITIONAL RIVALRIES.—

14 “(1) CONFERENCE OPPONENTS.—If, as of the  
15 date of enactment of the Protect College Sports Act  
16 of 2026, more than 6 of the top 10 historic oppo-  
17 nents in intercollegiate football of a member institu-  
18 tion were intra-conference opponents of the member  
19 institution in intercollegiate football during the most  
20 recently completed season, the covered entity shall  
21 require the member institution to preserve, to the  
22 maximum extent practicable, intercollegiate athletic  
23 competitions within intercollegiate football amongst  
24 all of its current conference opponents as of that  
25 date of enactment.

1           “(2) TRADITIONAL RIVALRIES.—

2           “(A) IN GENERAL.—If, as of the date of  
3           enactment of the Protect College Sports Act of  
4           2026, more than 2 of the top 10 historic oppo-  
5           nents in intercollegiate football of a member in-  
6           stitution were out-of-conference opponents of  
7           the member institution in intercollegiate foot-  
8           ball during the most recently completed season,  
9           the covered entity shall require the member in-  
10          stitution to play intercollegiate athletic competi-  
11          tions within intercollegiate football that con-  
12          stitute traditional rivalries, and ensure that—

13                 “(i) the member institution plays not  
14                 fewer than 2 intercollegiate athletic com-  
15                 petitions within intercollegiate football that  
16                 constitute a traditional rivalry every 4  
17                 years; and

18                 “(ii) the member institution plays not  
19                 less than 1 intercollegiate athletic competi-  
20                 tion within intercollegiate football each  
21                 year with an institution that is in a dif-  
22                 ferent conference and is one of the top 5  
23                 historic opponents in intercollegiate foot-  
24                 ball of the member institution.

1           “(B) INSTITUTIONS WITH FEWER THAN 4  
2           OUT-OF-CONFERENCE RIVALS.—If a member in-  
3           stitution is subject to the requirements under  
4           subparagraph (A), and fewer than 4 of the top  
5           10 historic opponents of the member institution  
6           in intercollegiate football are member institu-  
7           tions that belong to a different conference, the  
8           member institution shall seek to comply with  
9           clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) to the  
10          extent practicable.

11          “(C) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this  
12          paragraph shall be construed to affect the abil-  
13          ity of a member institution to engage in inter-  
14          collegiate athletic competitions within intercolle-  
15          giate football against any other member institu-  
16          tion within the same conference that was 1 of  
17          the top 10 historic opponents in intercollegiate  
18          football of the member institution as of the date  
19          of enactment of the Protect College Sports Act  
20          of 2026.

21          “(3) PERIODIC REVIEW; AUTHORITY TO MODIFY  
22          REQUIREMENTS.—8 years after the date of enact-  
23          ment of the Protect College Sports Act of 2026, and  
24          periodically thereafter, but not more frequently than  
25          once every 4 years, the covered entity—

1           “(A) may review the effects of the require-  
2           ments under this subsection on fan interest,  
3           student athletes, media revenues, and preserva-  
4           tion of traditional rivalries and historic oppo-  
5           nents; and

6           “(B) may modify the requirements under  
7           this subsection.

8           “(h) ENFORCEMENT OF THE ACT; RIGHT TO  
9 CURE.—

10           “(1) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Subject to  
11           paragraph (2), a person aggrieved by a violation of  
12           section 1(b), this section, section 6, or section 7, in-  
13           cluding a party to a joint agreement to form the cov-  
14           ered entity, may bring a civil action against the cov-  
15           ered entity in an appropriate district court of the  
16           United States.

17           “(2) NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.—A  
18           person may only bring a civil action under para-  
19           graph (1) for a violation of section 1(b), this section,  
20           section 6, or section 7 if—

21           “(A) not later than 1 year before bringing  
22           the civil action, the person provides to the de-  
23           fendant specific notice of the violation and an  
24           opportunity to cure the violation; and

1           “(B) the defendant does not cure the viola-  
2           tion during the 1-year period beginning on the  
3           date of the notice described in subparagraph  
4           (A).

5           “(i) PARTICIPATION IN COVERED ENTITY OP-  
6           TIONAL.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act shall,  
8           under Federal or State law, establish or be con-  
9           strued to require, mandate, or encourage any insti-  
10          tution or conference to join, participate in, or trans-  
11          fer any media rights to the covered entity or to cre-  
12          ate or give rise to any duty, obligation, or standard  
13          of care to take such action.

14          “(2) EFFECT ON LIABILITY.—Nothing in this  
15          Act, any amendments made by this Act, or a deci-  
16          sion by an institution or conference to decline to join  
17          or participate in the covered entity may be used to  
18          support any claim, cause of action, or theory of li-  
19          ability under Federal or State law that would impose  
20          liability on an institution or conference or compel an  
21          institution or conference to join or participate in the  
22          covered entity.”.

1 **SEC. 204. MARKET LEVEL BROADCAST ACCESS FOR COL-**  
2 **LEGE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL.**

3 The Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961 is amended by  
4 inserting after section 5 (as added by section 203 of this  
5 Act) the following:

6 **“SEC. 6. MARKET-LEVEL BROADCAST ACCESS FOR COL-**  
7 **LEGE FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL.**

8 **“(a) DEFINITIONS.—**In this section:

9 **“(1) DESIGNATED MARKET AREA.—**The term  
10 ‘designated market area’ has the meaning given the  
11 term in section 122(j)(2)(C) of title 17, United  
12 States Code.

13 **“(2) LOCAL DESIGNATED MARKET AREA.—**

14 **“(A) IN GENERAL.—**The term ‘local des-  
15 ignated market area’ means an area that—

16 **“(i)** consists of a designated market  
17 area that includes the principal campus of  
18 an institution that is a member of the cov-  
19 ered entity; and

20 **“(ii)** at the election of the member in-  
21 stitution and the applicable network, dis-  
22 tributor, or licensee holding market-level  
23 rights, may include not more than 1 addi-  
24 tional geographically adjacent designated  
25 market area, or designated market area  
26 within the State in which the principal

1 campus of the member institution is lo-  
2 cated, in which a substantial portion of the  
3 student body, alumni, or in-State resident  
4 population of the member institution re-  
5 sides.

6 “(B) PUBLICATION OF LIST.—The Federal  
7 Communications Commission shall—

8 “(i) not later than 180 days after the  
9 date of enactment of the Protect College  
10 Sports Act of 2026, publish a list of des-  
11 ignated market areas described in subpara-  
12 graph (A); and

13 “(ii) maintain the list described in  
14 clause (i) on a public website.

15 “(3) LOCAL OUTLET OPTION.—The term ‘Local  
16 Outlet option’ means the opportunity for not less  
17 than 1 outlet to carry a live intercollegiate athletic  
18 competition without charge to viewers within the  
19 local designated market area of a member institution  
20 that is participating in the competition.

21 “(b) REQUIREMENT OF LOCAL OUTLET OPTION.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of the ex-  
23 emption under section 1(b)(1), the covered entity  
24 shall make commercially available by purchase or li-  
25 cense, on a non-exclusive basis, for each intercolle-

1       giate athletic competition in football or basketball,  
2       not less than 1 Local Outlet option in the local des-  
3       ignated market area of each member institution par-  
4       ticipating in the competition.

5           “(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
6       paragraph (1) shall be construed to require carriage  
7       of an intercollegiate athletic competition by more  
8       than 1 Local Outlet in a given designated market  
9       area.

10          “(3) NO EFFECT ON NATIONAL MEDIA AGREE-  
11       MENTS.—Nothing in paragraph (1) shall limit the  
12       covered entity’s ability to negotiate nationwide or re-  
13       gional media agreements.

14          “(4) REQUIREMENT FULFILLMENT.—A na-  
15       tional rights holder may satisfy the requirement  
16       under paragraph (1) by making intercollegiate ath-  
17       letic competitions available to viewers in the applica-  
18       ble local designated market areas using an offering  
19       that the rights holder owns or is affiliated with that  
20       is freely available to viewers.

21          “(c) GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATION.—

22           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each covered entity, and  
23       any network, distributor, or licensee holding market-  
24       level rights or seeking Local Outlet option rights to  
25       intercollegiate athletic competitions described in sub-

1 section (b), shall negotiate in good faith to fulfill the  
2 requirement of that subsection.

3 “(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The Federal Commu-  
4 nications Commission shall have jurisdiction over  
5 complaints alleging a violation of paragraph (1).”.

6 **SEC. 205. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN CONFERENCE MERG-**  
7 **ERS OR ACQUISITION.**

8 The Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961 is amended by  
9 inserting after section 6 (as added by section 204 of this  
10 Act) the following:

11 **“SEC. 7. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN CONFERENCE MERG-**  
12 **ERS AND ACQUISITIONS.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful under the  
14 antitrust laws, as defined in section 1(a), for any covered  
15 conference that reported more than \$700,000,000 in rev-  
16 enue on its fiscal year 2025 tax return or any subsequent  
17 tax return to merge or consolidate with, or to acquire the  
18 assets, media rights (including media rights of an institu-  
19 tion), or membership of, another covered conference or of  
20 an independent institution, if as a result of the trans-  
21 action, the number of institutions that are members of the  
22 covered conference would be less than 75 percent of the  
23 institutions participating in the Football Bowl Subdivi-  
24 sion, as defined by Bylaw 20.9.9 of the National Collegiate  
25 Athletic Association.

1       “(b) DEFENSES NOT APPLICABLE.—A transaction  
2 prohibited under subsection (a) may not be justified by  
3 efficiencies, procompetitive effects, or any other defense  
4 under the antitrust laws, as defined in section 1(a).

5       “(c) EFFECT.—Any transaction consummated in vio-  
6 lation of subsection (a) shall be void.

7       “(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘covered  
8 conference’ means a conference, the primary athletic rev-  
9 enue of which is derived from the sale or transfer of media  
10 rights relating to intercollegiate football.”.

11 **SEC. 206. AMENDMENTS TO INTERCOLLEGIATE AND INTER-**  
12                                   **SCHOLASTIC FOOTBALL CONTEST LIMITA-**  
13                                   **TIONS.**

14       Section 3 of the Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961 (15  
15 U.S.C. 1293) is amended—

16               (1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the  
17 end;

18               (2) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at  
19 the end and inserting “, and”; and

20               (3) by adding at the end the following:

21               “(4) the season and any postseason, including  
22 championships, of such intercollegiate football con-  
23 tests conclude not later than January 8 of any year,  
24 to the extent practicable.”.

1 **SEC. 207. MEDIA RIGHTS UTILIZATION REQUIREMENT FOR**  
2 **COLLEGE SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL**  
3 **AND BASKETBALL.**

4 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms “cov-  
5 ered entity”, “intercollegiate athletic competition”, “mem-  
6 ber conference”, and “member institution” have the mean-  
7 ings given those terms in section 8 of the Sports Broad-  
8 casting Act, as redesignated by section 201(b)(1) of this  
9 Act.

10 (b) REQUIREMENT OF USE.—A distributor to which  
11 any media rights for intercollegiate athletic competitions  
12 in a sport other than football or basketball are sold, li-  
13 censed, or otherwise conveyed by the covered entity or its  
14 member institutions or member conferences after the date  
15 of enactment of this Act shall affirmatively use those  
16 rights by making the competitions reasonably available to  
17 the public not later than 1 year after the effective date  
18 of the agreement under which the rights are sold, licensed,  
19 or otherwise conveyed.

20 (c) REVERSION OF RIGHTS.—

21 (1) FAILURE TO USE RIGHTS; OPPORTUNITY TO  
22 CURE.—If a distributor to which media rights for  
23 intercollegiate athletic competitions in a sport other  
24 than football or basketball are sold, licensed, or oth-  
25 erwise conveyed as described in subsection (b) does  
26 not use the rights during the 1-year period begin-

1       ning on the effective date of the agreement under  
2       which the rights are sold, licensed, or otherwise con-  
3       veyed, the covered entity, member institution, or  
4       member conference notifies the distributor after the  
5       expiration of that 1-year period of the distributor's  
6       failure to use the rights, and the distributor does not  
7       use the rights during the 180-day period beginning  
8       on the date of the notification, the rights for that  
9       sport shall revert to the originating covered entity,  
10      member institution, or member conference.

11           (2) RECONVEYANCE.—Upon the reversion of  
12      rights under paragraph (1), the covered entity,  
13      member institution, or member conference may re-  
14      sell, relicense, or otherwise reconvey the rights to an-  
15      other entity without penalty or liability for breach of  
16      the original agreement described in that paragraph.

17           (d) SAVINGS.—Nothing in this section shall be con-  
18      strued to modify the Sports Broadcasting Act of 1961,  
19      as amended by this title.