



American Association of Senior Citizens

PARKVIEW INSTITUTE



The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson,

We write today in support of H.R. 4312, the “Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements (SCORE) Act.”

The SCORE Act is the free market, individual liberty, limited government fix to the “name, image, and likeness (NIL)” issue in college athletics.

In 2021, the **Elia v.athletes** case before the Supreme Court resulted in schools gaining freedom to offer additional education-related benefits to students, which set the stage for an expansion of NIL rights. In the years since, a patchwork of confusing state laws have been enacted, which cry out for a federal solution to create unified NIL rules that are consistent for everyone.

The SCORE Act is the constitutional, conservative, and common-sense way to establish these rules and preempt the hodgepodge of state laws.

H.R. 4312 prohibits trial lawyers from suing under federal or state antitrust law. It also provides that athletes receiving NIL compensation need not be employees of these universities, protecting them from compulsory unionization. This means student-athletes can be treated as small business owners, not unionized workers.

The Left’s proposed framework to regulate NIL would be a disaster. Known as the “SAFE Act,” it would open the door for trial lawyers to frivolously sue athletic departments and conferences. It could also require student-athletes to be classified as employees, forcing many of them into unions, using merely the predicate of NIL compensation.

Bizarrely, the SAFE Act would also create a socialized college sports media contract, imposing a national government board to negotiate for all colleges. Washington bureaucrats should not be in the business of negotiating sports television and streaming rights.

Thirty-one Division I athletic conferences with wide-ranging membership, from schools with small budgets to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), have publicly endorsed the SCORE Act as the solution to protecting opportunities for student-athletes. The path forward is clear. We urge you to support the SCORE Act and oppose the Big Government SAFE Act.



AMERICAN COMMITMENT



Sincerely,

Ryan Ellis
Center for a Free Economy

Charles Sauer
Market Institute

Saul Anuzis
American Association of
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James Martin
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