



National College Players Association (NCPA)
PO Box 6917
Norco, CA 92860

July 17, 2025

The Honorable Tim Walberg, Chairman
Committee on Education and Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott, Ranking Member
Committee on Education and Workforce
U.S. House of Representatives
2176 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Opposition to The SCORE Act

Dear Chairman Walberg, Ranking Member Scott, and Members of the Committee on Education and Workforce:

The National College Players Association (NCPA) strongly opposes the SCORE Act and urges every member of the Committee to vote NO on this legislation.

The SCORE Act is a Trojan horse that is attempting to use credible concerns caused by unlimited college athlete transfer freedoms as an excuse to decimate college athletes' rights, freedoms, and compensation as a gift to the NCAA and its universities. While the NCPA supports reasonable restrictions on athlete transfer freedoms, this issue is not a priority and will not "end college sports" as the NCAA and universities claim.

Similarly, collective bargaining would not end college sports should athletes ever be recognized as employees and choose to organize under the NLRA. Universities always have a choice to refuse to enter into a collective bargaining agreement that they deem harmful to college sports. In fact, university officials at the University of Tennessee and other institutions have expressed openness to such a development. This too is not an urgent issue given it would take many years for athletes to be affirmed as employees by federal courts under the NLRA.

However, Congress does need to act immediately to prevent serious, injury, abuse, death, and other issues vital to bring forth fairness to college athletes. NCAA sports has never been under such pressure, and this is a positive development. This pressure can be used to finally bring comprehensive reform to ensure just treatment for college athletes. Congress should not adopt any federal legislation that does not include broad-based reform to ensure college athletes finally have the protections, freedom, and compensation they deserve.

Contrary to its name, the SCORE Act does not advance the rights or benefits of college athletes. Instead, it rolls back key protections that exist under state NIL laws and deprives them of equal rights under labor and antitrust laws. The SCORE Act intentionally shuts down pathways for athletes to pursue fair treatment and further empowers institutions that have long exploited college athletes physically, sexually, academically, and economically.

This legislation would allow the NCAA, conferences, and universities to continue harming college athletes without accountability. It will impose economic harm on FBS football and Division I basketball players, the majority of whom are Black, by stripping them billions of dollars in compensation. It would even allow universities to collude to eliminate all college athlete NIL freedoms.

Below are some specific concerns with the SCORE Act:

- Offers no real gain in compensation or benefits, as SCORE Act provisions already exist under state laws and NCAA rules.
- Strips athletes of equal rights under antitrust and labor law, and eliminates freedoms guaranteed by state NIL laws.
- Fails to establish enforceable safety standards to prevent serious injury, abuse, and death among college athletes.
- Includes language that would allow all universities to enter agreements amongst each other designed to conflict with and, therefore, void all athlete NIL opportunities.
- Imposes a low athlete compensation cap of 22% of revenue—less than half of what pro athletes receive through unions.
- Shifts approximately \$2 billion annually in NIL pay from predominantly Black athletes to predominantly White coaches and their universities ending virtually all of athletes' NIL pay from NIL collectives.
- Does not prevent the NCAA or conferences from eliminating roster spots or Olympic sports.
- Fails to enforce Title IX transparency or compliance.
- Grants the NCAA power to restrict athlete transfer rights—even in cases of abuse.
- Permits schools to act as athlete agents under House v. NCAA, creating major conflicts of interest.
- Lacks assurances that any athlete benefits will survive if private equity or a third party takes control of some or all of a university's athletic program.
- Provides no legal recourse for athletes harmed by institutional or NCAA misconduct.

The NCPA urges the Committee to reject the SCORE Act and instead support meaningful, broad-based protections and freedoms for college athletes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ramogi Huma". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ramogi Huma
NCPA Executive Director