

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

The Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce Hearing entitled:
“NIL Playbook: Proposal to Protect Student Athletes' Dealmaking Rights.”

Jeff Jackson, Commissioner, Missouri Valley Conference

Response to Member Questions

The Honorable Russ Fulcher

1. Mr. Jackson, the FAIR College Sports Act appears to protect athletes and schools through registration and transparency, addressing potential fraud and conflicts of interest, and limiting the student athlete from undermining the school's reputation in the deals the student athlete signs. The categories a school could object to are things like gambling or alcohol. How often are student athletes approached by inappropriate industries that necessitate taking this federal action?

Congressman Fulcher,

I want to thank you for your question and appreciate your time and interest in this important endeavor.

There is currently no transparency in NIL reporting or a registry model to understand who or what entities are approaching student-athletes, which makes answering this question challenging. Most institutions in the Missouri Valley Conference have some sort of informal policy regarding student-athlete participation in NIL activities, including those activities or agreements deemed inappropriate. At this time, we are not aware of any student-athletes who have reported being approached by “inappropriate industries” that would be in violation of current campus policy. We believe bills like the FAIR College Sports Act will assist in creating transparency in reporting and consistency when it comes to NIL activities, which will allow our institutions to better support and protect our student-athletes.

Sincerely,



Jeff Jackson
Commissioner