



Date: July 22, 2025

To: Distinguished Members of the House Education & Workforce Committee

From: Jeff Bacon, Commissioner, Atlantic Sun Conference

Subject: Support for H.R. 4312 (SCORE Act)

I am writing to express my support for H.R. 4312, the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements (SCORE) Act. As Commissioner of the Atlantic Sun Conference I am deeply invested in the future of collegiate athletics and the opportunity that it annually provides for hundreds of thousands of young people. I believe that this bipartisan legislation being considered is a necessary step towards ensuring a fair, equitable and sustainable framework for our industry and that only federal intervention can ensure that the proud American tradition of collegiate athletics continues while ensuring that student-athletes continue to benefit from Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) opportunities.

Over the past several years, collegiate athletics has become the wild, wild, west. With no ability to create national standards and no ability to enforce rules without an invitation for lawsuits, we have become tied up within a patchwork of state laws that are unmanageable. Further, student-athletes have become prey for those looking to “make a buck”, namely unlicensed “agents” that have been found to charge upwards of 20% or more of a student-athletes rights fees.

The SCORE Act takes direct aim at these issues and more, allowing for the creation and enforcement of fair and equitable rules while protecting our student-first model and Olympic sports. While perhaps in need of additional vetting to ensure the protection of institutions that are not members of an “Autonomous 4” Conference (Big Ten, SEC, ACC, Big 12), it provides much of the stability and clarity that the collegiate sports environment desperately needs.

Thank you for your work and attention to this important matter and remain available for consultation or additional information if helpful.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bacon
Commissioner, Atlantic Sun Conference