



Dear Members of Congress,

Concordia University Irvine's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee strongly supports the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements Act (SCORE Act) as a critical step in protecting student-athletes' rights, opportunities, and overall well-being.

This legislation affirms a foundational principle shared across all NCAA divisions: student-athletes are students first—not employees. We fully endorse the provision that preserves our non-employment status while simultaneously expanding access to NIL opportunities, agent representation, privacy protections, financial transparency, comprehensive medical care, degree completion, and essential health, safety, and educational resources.

Classifying student-athletes as employees would not only undermine the unique academic and developmental mission of collegiate athletics but also risk reducing opportunities—especially at smaller institutions and in non-revenue sports. Such a shift could lead to program cuts, fewer scholarships, and reduced access to the life-changing experience of college sports for thousands of student-athletes nationwide. The SCORE Act prevents these unintended consequences by maintaining our student identity while promoting fairness and opportunity.

By establishing a consistent national framework, the SCORE Act replaces the current patchwork of state laws with clarity and cohesion. It safeguards the integrity of college athletics and reinforces the ability of the NCAA to enforce fair competition rules with appropriate legal protections. Most importantly, the legislation promotes a modern, student-centered approach that prioritizes academic achievement, athletic development, and personal growth.

We are proud to endorse this legislation on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of student-athletes we represent. Student-athletes have waited long enough—now is the time to stand with us and move this important bill forward.

"Division II student-athletes support the SCORE Act because it creates a clear, nationwide NIL standard that replaces the confusing patchwork of state laws. We strongly agree with its protection of our status as students, not employees, and we believe it preserves the integrity of college athletics by enabling the NCAA to uphold fair rules with appropriate antitrust protections. This bill reflects what we've consistently advocated for: clarity, consistency, and the ability to pursue academics and athletics at the highest level."

— Avery Hellmuth, DII SAAC Chair

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brittany". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brittany Pereda

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Advisor
Concordia University Irvine

