

Statement of Support from the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

Dear Members of Congress,

My name is Lauren Krupnikoff, I am a women's soccer and lacrosse student-athlete and I serve as the Great Northeast Athletic Conference SAAC Representative, elected to represent the voice of thousands of Division III student-athletes across our 14 member institutions. Our conference spans institutions in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts New Hampshire, and Vermont, allowing me the privilege of representing student-athletes from across the New England region.

We at the Great Northeast Athletic Conference strongly support the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements Act (SCORE Act). Unlike Division I or II, Division III institutions do not offer athletic scholarships, and our model is built on the belief that student-athletes are students first. The SCORE Act protects this model while modernizing college athletics by preserving our non-employment status, establishing consistent NIL standards nationwide, and supporting student-athlete health, safety, and academic success.

Division III student-athletes view athletic participation as an opportunity to enrich our college experience—not as a form of employment. Furthermore, our institutions are not built to operate under an employment model, financially or in mission. In all, we are committed students who compete at a high level, and this legislation allows us to continue doing so in a stable, fair, and student-centered environment.

On behalf of Division III student-athletes in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Vermont, including many within your district in Boston, I urge your support for the SCORE Act. This bill ensures that student-athletes in your communities can continue to thrive as students first.

Thank you for your time and commitment to improving college athletics for all student-athletes.

In representation of the student-athletes of the Great Northeast Athletic Conference,

National Representative, Lauren Krupnikoff

GNAC Commissioner's Council Members: Ella Belanger, Robert Carr, Madison Cole, Alexis Cowan, Fatma Fatah, Tiffany Fischer, Sarah Hoffman, Jillian Milo, Aurora Gutierrez-Macias, Jason Martin, Amanda Raymond, Sydney Perry, Aurora Proulx