



HORIZON LEAGUE.

Statement of Support from the Horizon League Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Dear Esteemed members of both the Education and Workforce & the Energy and Commerce Committees,

My name is Jahi McDonald, and I am a Men's Track and Field student-athlete at Wright State University, representing the student-athletes of the Horizon League at the Division I level. The Horizon League stretches its regional mark across six states, including Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania.

We at the Horizon League wholeheartedly support the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements Act (SCORE Act) as a critical step in protecting student-athletes' rights, opportunities, and well-being. As a current student-athlete, I know firsthand that the relationship with coaches and staff is much more than simply one of a boss. They are role models and, oftentimes those we go to for advice off the track, field, or court. Ensuring this type of relationship is essential to the student-athlete experience. It's about having mentors with the ability to guide us, not just direct us, helping us balance the demands of academics and athletics that can become overwhelming. The SCORE Act protects student-athletes and creates an environment that will allow for the holistic development of student-athletes.

This bill reinforces a fundamental truth: student-athletes are students above all else, NOT employees. The Horizon League strongly supports the provisions that broaden our access to NIL opportunities, agent representation, privacy safeguards, and financial transparency, all while preserving our non-employment status. The SCORE Act also ensures comprehensive medical care, support for degree completion, and essential health, safety, and educational resources. This bill fosters fairness and establishes consistent standards nationwide, reflecting a modern, student-centered vision for collegiate athletics.

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

Kindest regards,

As the representative of the Horizon League SAAC,

Jahi McDonald
Horizon League NCAA Division I Representative
Track and Field Athlete
Wright State University