



WALTER "TED" CARTER JR.

December 1, 2025

Dear Ohio Congressional Delegation:

As the House prepares to consider the bipartisan Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements (SCORE) Act, I want to take a moment to express my support for the bill.

In these uncertain times for collegiate athletics, Congress has a unique opportunity to provide clarity and stability. While the recent House settlement represents progress, it does not resolve the systemic challenges facing college sports. Without a uniform national standard for Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL), institutions and student-athletes remain subject to a confusing patchwork of state laws, inconsistent court rulings, and escalating litigation. This fragmentation threatens the sustainability of all athletic programs, particularly non-revenue and Olympic sports that are vital to the collegiate model.

The SCORE Act addresses these challenges by creating a national NIL framework, codifying critical student-athlete protections, and preserving the educational mission of college sports. It ensures that student-athletes retain control of their NIL rights while prohibiting employment status that could dismantle broad-based athletic opportunities. Moreover, it provides uniform rules and limited liability protections for governing bodies to maintain fair competition and academic integrity.

At Ohio State, athletics is the front porch of our university, connecting our campus to communities across the nation. We proudly support 36 varsity programs and more than 1,000 student-athletes who excel both on the field and in the classroom. Preserving this model is central to our mission and values.

The SCORE Act will help ensure that student-athletes can thrive academically and athletically while preserving the broad-based model that makes collegiate sports a uniquely American tradition.

Thank you for your consideration and your leadership on behalf of the people of Ohio.

Sincerely,

Walter "Ted" Carter Jr.  
President, The Ohio State University