



Statement of Support from the **State University of New York Athletic Conference** Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

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Dear Representative Langworthy,

My name is Joshua Osae, I am a Cross Country & Track & Field student-athlete and I serve as the State University of New York Athletic Conference SAAC Representative, elected to represent the voice of thousands of Division III student-athletes across our 10 member institutions. Our conference spans institutions in New York, giving me the privilege of representing student-athletes from across the state.

I 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 do not view athletic participation as employment, we compete because it enriches our college experience. Simultaneously, our institutions are not built to operate under an employment model, financially or in mission. 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 at SUNY Buffalo State, SUNY Canton, SUNY Cortland, SUNY Fredonia, SUNY Morrisville, SUNY New Paltz, SUNY Oneonta, SUNY Oswego, SUNY Plattsburgh, and SUNY Potsdam, including many within your district, I urge your support for the SCORE Act. This bill ensures that student-athletes in your communities can continue to thrive as students foremost.

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

Joshua Osae

SUNY Cortland SAAC PRESIDENT/ STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK ATHLETIC  
CONFERENCE SAAC REPRESENTATIVE

Cross Country & Track & Field Student-Athlete