



Statement of Support from the University of North Florida Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
(SAAC)

Dear Esteemed members of the Education and Workforce Committee,

My name is Anslee Long, I am a women's tennis student-athlete representing the student-athletes at The University of North Florida on a conference level. The Atlantic Sun Conference stretches its regional mark across 7 states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

We at The University of North Florida, whole heartedly 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 my coaches and staff are so much more than just my bosses. They are my role models and, for many of us, feel like second parents. Ensuring this type of relationship is paramount to the student-athlete experience. It's about having mentors who guide us, not just direct us, helping us balance the demands of academics and athletics and becoming well-rounded citizens. The SCORE Act protects student-athletes and seeks to create 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 University of North Florida 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 dedication to improving college athletics.
Kindest regards,

As the representative of the University of North Florida SAAC,

Anslee Long
University of North Florida SAAC Chair