

FACT SHEET

House Committee on Education and Workforce

Ranking Member Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Vote "NO" on the SCORE Act

Organizations like the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) boast massive revenues from college athletes' hard work, while these athletes are often taken advantage of and mistreated. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, the NCAA raked in almost \$1.4 billion in revenue, a \$91 million increase from the prior year. In 2023, Division I schools spent over \$3.6 billion on coaches' salaries, the largest spending category in these schools' athletic finances.

Meanwhile, the demands on athletes can be immense, from crisscrossing the country for competitions and games to managing injuries to staying on top of their classwork. What's worse, college athletes can still struggle with food insecurity, poverty, and homelessness. College athletes are understandably looking for ways to address these issues and gain more of a voice.

While we can agree that more should be done to protect college athletes and level the playing field, the Student Compensation and Opportunity through Rights and Endorsements (SCORE) Act, H.R. 4312, misses the mark. The SCORE Act hands the NCAA blank checks and bailouts while doing little to uplift or protect college athletes.

Specifically, the SCORE Act:

- Imposes a radical and permanent ban on college athletes ever receiving labor and employment rights and protections, including the right to bargain collectively.
- Strips athletes of the ability to protect themselves from new and existing harmful anticompetitive conduct.
- Shields the NCAA and the conferences from state and federal liability when they collude to benefit themselves at the expense of college athletes' education, health, safety, and financial well-being.
- Contains an unacceptably broad preemption clause that removes benefits and protections put in place by states for college athletes.
- Prohibits states from adopting new laws to protect college athletes.
- Gives the NCAA and the other conferences unchecked authority over all aspects of college athletics and invites abuse of that authority by failing to provide federal enforcement authority.
- Fails to address issues of gender equity in college athletics.