

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0908

December 13, 2023

Mr. Charlie Baker
President
The National Collegiate Athletic Association
700 West Washington Street
P.O. Box 7110
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222

Dear President Baker:

Recently, the Olympic Committee announced that flag football will be an official Olympic sport at the summer 2028 games. This welcomed news serves as a prime opportunity for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to encourage its participating colleges and universities to offer women's flag football as an emerging sport.

Currently, only the institutions of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) formally provide women's flag football programs. More than 30 schools offer this sport to women, with five of those schools based in Florida. With this growing sport, and its benefits to women, the Olympic Committee's announcement is timely. The NCAA should use this opportunity to proactively educate and encourage its schools to formalize programs. This in turn would allow collegiate women scholarship opportunities and serve as a feeder to the Olympics where they can proudly represent their country and school.

In addition to the Olympics, the National Football League has also announced its support for women's flag football. The NFL's partnership with RCX Sports and the Philadelphia Eagles has prompted the Atlantic East Conference to be the first NCAA Conference to offer female flag football, starting in 2025. With leadership and support from the NCAA, women's flag football could be rolled out across the country.

Women's sports, from youth to the highest levels, allows immeasurable benefits for female student athletes. As such, we request your leadership and support to ensure that all NCAA institutions are encouraged to provide women's flag football programs.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
U.S. Senator