UF |UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

W. Kent Fuchs
President

226 Tigert Hall
PO Box 113150
Gainesville, FL 32611-3150
352-392-1311
352-392-9506 Fax

June 17, 2020

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio,

On behalf of the University of Florida, I am pleased to offer my support of the Fairness in Collegiate Athletics Act (FCAA). The recent consideration and enactment of laws across the nation to provide opportunities for students to pursue additional compensation for their name, images and likenesses (NIL) creates the immediate need to establish a uniform national standard for licensing. The FCAA establishes that level playing field and will help support the interests of our students while they pursue their educations.

The FCAA provides a single, clear national standard for NIL that will allow our student athletes to attain their academic goals while providing some economic opportunity. The FCAA most importantly preserves the student athletes' amateur status that will enable them to remain students first, not employees, and prevents unintended pay-for-play situations.

As we work to ensure the wellbeing of our student athletes in this changing environment, the FCAA would ensure all students benefit fairly, while preserving the character and integrity of the student-athlete experience. It supports the stated principles of the Autonomy 5 – the Atlantic Coast Conference, Big Ten Conference, Big 12 Conference, Pac-12 Conference and Southeastern Conference – to promote equal opportunity and protect the gains made from Title IX.

The UF University Athletic Association's overarching mission is to provide "A Championship Experience with Integrity." The Fairness in Collegiate Athletic Act aligns with this mission while benefiting athletic programs and student athletes everywhere. We look forward to working with you as the act moves through Congress and to supporting our students as they pursue their greatest potential.

Go Gators!

Respectfully yours,

W. Kent Fuchs

Cc: Mark Kaplan (mark.kaplan@ufl.edu)