



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 17, 2020

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

On behalf of Florida State University, thank you for your ongoing leadership in addressing issues impacting college students and their families. FSU is pleased to support the Fairness in Collegiate Athletics Act (FCAA). The legislation establishes a timely and necessary national standard for college student-athletes to be compensated for licensing their names, images and likenesses (NIL).

FSU provides student-athletes with the support and resources necessary to excel both in the classroom and sports. However, we appreciate the policy discussion that has recently emerged regarding new opportunities for college student-athletes through third-party NIL compensation. The Consensus Principles on NIL developed by the Autonomy Five conferences – the Atlantic Coast Conference, the Big 12, The Big Ten, the Pac-12 Conference, and the Southeastern Conference – provide an appropriate guide. FSU appreciates that the FCAA reflects much of the A5 framework.

The preemption provision contained in the FCAA provides a remedy for disparities created by the current patchwork of new NIL compensation rules across the states. Additionally, important safeguards are included to preserve the character and quality of college sports, as well as help maintain emphasis on academic achievement, foster a level playing field for recruiting, and protect student-athletes from unscrupulous actors.

We appreciate the outreach from your office to the higher education community throughout the development of the FCAA. We look forward to continued engagement with your team as this urgently needed legislation moves forward.

Sincerely,

John Thrasher
President