

FIGHTING TO SAVE COLLEGE FOOTBALL AND PROTECT STUDENT ATHLETES

After spending 40 years as a football coach, educator, and mentor, Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) is leading the charge in Congress to protect student-athletes and preserve the integrity of college sports.

HOW WE GOT HERE

In June 2021, the Supreme Court ruled that student-athletes could be paid for the use of their name, image, and likeness (NIL). 32 states have passed a number of conflicting laws on this issue, creating an unequal playing field for universities and student-athletes. If Congress does not act, then one state—or a handful of states—will dictate the rules to the rest of the country.

THE SOLUTION

In July, Coach Tuberville introduced the Protecting Athletes, Schools, and Sports (PASS) Act with Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV). The bill creates basic guidelines to ensure student-athletes are protected while preserving the integrity of college athletics.

PUTTING ATHLETES FIRST BY:

- Guaranteeing student-athletes receive health insurance for sports-related injuries for 8 years after graduating from a 4-year institution.
- Requiring universities to honor the original scholarship commitment made to a student-athlete—even if they get a NIL deal.
- Educating student-athletes on financial literacy and regulatory rights to ensure they know how to manage NIL deals responsibly.

PRESERVING THE INTEGRITY OF COLLEGE SPORTS BY:

- Providing stability for students and teams by moderating transfer portal eligibility.
 - Students would not be able to transfer during their first 3 years of eligibility to ensure consistency in education and athletic experience, with some exceptions.
- Ensuring NIL deals are not used in recruiting.
- Requiring boosters and collectives offering NIL deals to be affiliated with the school.
- Establishing national standards for NIL deals by creating a uniform contract.
 - The legislation would ban NIL agreements with student-athletes involving alcohol, drugs, weapons, or gambling.