

STATE OF NEW YORK

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2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 22, 2021

Introduced by Sens. PARKER, BAILEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged and said bill committed to the Committee on Higher Education -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to enacting the "New York collegiate athletic participation compensation act"

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as
2 the "New York collegiate athletic participation compensation act".

3 § 2. The education law is amended by adding two new sections 6438-a
4 and 6438-b to read as follows:

5 § 6438-a. Student-athlete compensation. 1. (a) A college shall not
6 uphold any rule, requirement, standard, or other limitation that
7 prevents a student of that institution participating in intercollegiate
8 athletics from earning compensation pursuant to this section including
9 as a result of the use of the student's name, image, or likeness. Earn-
10 ing compensation as a result of the use of a student's name, image, or
11 likeness shall not affect the student's scholarship eligibility.

12 (b) An athletic association, conference, or other group or organiza-
13 tion with authority over intercollegiate athletics, including, but not
14 limited to, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), shall
15 not prevent a student of a college participating in intercollegiate
16 athletics from earning compensation pursuant to this section including
17 as a result of the use of the student's name, image, or likeness.

18 (c) An athletic association, conference, or other group or organiza-
19 tion with authority over intercollegiate athletics, including, but not

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 limited to, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), shall
2 not prevent a college from participating in intercollegiate athletics as
3 a result of the compensation of a student-athlete pursuant to this
4 section including for the use of the student's name, image, or likeness.

5 (d) A community college shall be exempt from the requirements of this
6 section.

7 2. A college, athletic association, conference, or other group or
8 organization with authority over intercollegiate athletics shall not
9 provide a prospective student-athlete with compensation in relation to
10 the athlete's name, image, or likeness.

11 3. (a) A college, athletic association, conference, or other group or
12 organization with authority over intercollegiate athletics shall not
13 prevent a student-athlete participating in intercollegiate athletics
14 from obtaining professional representation in relation to contracts or
15 legal matters, including, but not limited to, representation provided by
16 athlete agents or legal representation provided by attorneys.

17 (b) Professional representation obtained by student-athletes shall be
18 from persons registered and/or licensed by the state. Professional
19 representation provided by athlete agents shall be by persons registered
20 pursuant to article thirty-nine-E of the general business law. Legal
21 representation of student-athletes shall be by attorneys licensed pursu-
22 ant to article fifteen of the judiciary law.

23 (c) Athlete agents representing student-athletes shall comply with the
24 federal Sports Agent Responsibility and Trust Act, established in chap-
25 ter 104 of title 15 of the United States Code, in their relationships
26 with student-athletes.

27 4. A scholarship from the college in which a student is enrolled that
28 provides the student with the cost of attendance at that institution is
29 not compensation for purposes of this section, and a scholarship shall
30 not be revoked as a result of earning compensation, or obtaining legal
31 or athletic agent representation.

32 5. (a) A student-athlete shall not enter into a contract providing
33 compensation to the athlete for use of the athlete's name, image, or
34 likeness if a provision of the contract causes a conflict as described
35 in paragraph (d) of this subdivision.

36 (b) A student-athlete who enters into a contract providing compen-
37 sation to the athlete for use of the athlete's name, image, or likeness
38 shall disclose the contract in advance of executing it to an official of
39 the college, to be designated by the college.

40 (c) A college asserting a conflict described in paragraph (a) of this
41 subdivision shall disclose to the athlete or the athlete's legal repre-
42 sentation the relevant contractual provisions that are in conflict;
43 provided, however, that a college shall not be required to disclose any
44 financial terms of such contract unless otherwise required by applicable
45 law.

46 (d) A college asserting a conflict described in paragraph (a) of this
47 subdivision may assert a conflict based on, but not limited to, the
48 following grounds:

49 (i) the proposed contract would cause the student to violate the team
50 contract; or

51 (ii) the proposed contract would cause the student to violate the
52 institution's student handbook or code of conduct; or

53 (iii) the proposed contract would conflict with an existing contract
54 or sponsorship the institution participates in; or

55 (iv) the proposed contract would reasonably be judged to cause finan-
56 cial loss or reputational damage to the institution; or

1 (v) the proposed contract would require actions by the player during
2 team activities; or

3 (vi) the proposed contract would require actions by the player during
4 scheduled classes; or

5 (vii) the proposed contract would use the institution's name, brand,
6 copywritten materials, trademarks, service marks, symbols, nicknames,
7 trade dress, insignia, mascot, uniform styles, colors, imagery, campus
8 landmarks, or any other intellectual property or indicia; or

9 (viii) the proposed contract would require the student to display a
10 sponsor's product, logo, brand, or other indicia, or otherwise advertise
11 for a sponsor, during official team activities or any other time, and
12 such sponsor is a competitor of, or offers products or services within
13 the same category as a sponsor of the college.

14 6. After the effective date of this section, a new team contract or a
15 renewal or modification of a team contract of a college's athletic
16 program shall not prevent a student-athlete from using the athlete's
17 name, image, or likeness for a commercial purpose when the athlete is
18 not engaged in official team activities, except where there is a
19 conflict as described in paragraph (d) of subdivision five of this
20 section or any other prohibition in this section.

21 7. Each college athletic program that participates in Division 1 NCAA
22 athletics shall offer a student-athlete assistance program or programs,
23 designed to provide student-athletes participating in Division 1 sports
24 with important tools aimed to enhance their well-being and experiences
25 in the classroom, off the field of play, and beyond their tenure as
26 student-athletes. The student-athlete assistance program may include but
27 not be limited to:

28 (a) A dedicated financial distress fund that would support enrolled
29 and/or current student-athletes in times of financial need. Disburse-
30 ments from such fund are not compensation for the purposes of this
31 section.

32 (b) Access to ongoing mental health support services provided by coun-
33 selors specially trained to understand the unique issues and pressures
34 student-athletes confront.

35 (c) Access to broad-based financial literacy training, with a specific
36 emphasis on the issues and opportunities relevant to student-athletes,
37 during and beyond their tenure at the college or university.

38 (d) A student-athlete degree completion assistance program that
39 provides former student-athletes who disenrolled from the institution in
40 good academic standing and who earned the NCAA Academic Progress Rate
41 eligibility point (for Division I institutions), before completing their
42 degree, access to need-based financial aid and counseling assistance
43 required to support undergraduate degree completion.

44 (e) Access to training regarding sex-based discrimination and harass-
45 ment that ensures student-athletes fully understand their rights and
46 responsibilities under the law, including how to make a report of
47 discrimination or harassment on their campus.

48 (f) Access to leadership training that will set the conditions for
49 student-athletes to become successful leaders, improve communication
50 skills, make positive decisions, and manage conflict.

51 (g) Access to a career development program, positioned to assist
52 student-athletes in transferring the valuable skills developed during
53 sport participation, to a successful post-college or university career.

54 8. For purposes of this section, "team contract" means any written
55 agreement between a student-athlete and a college, or division, depart-
56 ment, program or team thereof, which includes goals and objectives,

1 standards, prohibitions, broadcast, advertising or marketing rights or
2 consents, rules or expectations applicable to the student-athlete.

3 § 6438-b. Community college athlete name, image and likeness working
4 group. 1. There shall be established within the department by the chan-
5 cellor of the state university of New York, the community college
6 athlete name, image and likeness working group, to examine and review
7 existing state university of New York athletic bylaws, state and federal
8 laws and national athletic association bylaws regarding a college
9 athlete's use of such athlete's name, image and likeness for compen-
10 sation. The department shall provide necessary secretariat and support
11 services to the working group.

12 2. (a) The community college athlete name, image and likeness working
13 group shall consist of, but not be limited to, the following members:

14 (i) one representative from the office of the chancellor of the state
15 university of New York;

16 (ii) at least two community college student-athletes appointed by the
17 chancellor's office;

18 (iii) a community college athletic administrator appointed by the
19 chancellor's office;

20 (iv) a community college athletic coach appointed by the chancellor's
21 office;

22 (v) one member appointed by the governor;

23 (vi) one member appointed by the temporary president of the senate;
24 and

25 (vii) one member appointed by the speaker of the assembly.

26 (b) All appointments to the working group shall be completed on or
27 before July first, two thousand twenty-two.

28 3. On or before July first, two thousand twenty-three, the working
29 group shall provide a report to the governor, the speaker of the assem-
30 bly, the temporary president of the senate and the chancellor of the
31 state university of New York, which contains such working group's find-
32 ings and policy recommendations in connection with its review pursuant
33 to subdivision one of this section.

34 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that
35 section 6438-a of the education law, as added by section two of this
36 act, shall take effect January 1, 2022.