

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1552

To prohibit proposition bets made with respect to the performance of a student athlete, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Mr. BAUMGARTNER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To prohibit proposition bets made with respect to the performance of a student athlete, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Providing Responsible  
5       Oversight and Transparency and Ensuring Collegiate  
6       Trust for Student Athletes Act” or the “PROTECT Stu-  
7       dent Athletes Act”.

8       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

9       Congress finds the following:

1           (1) The practice of sports betting, including  
2           proposition bets involving the performance of stu-  
3           dent athletes, constitutes a substantial part of inter-  
4           state commerce.

5           (2) Sports betting activities are conducted  
6           across State lines by various means, including online  
7           platforms and physical betting establishments, that  
8           involve participants from multiple States.

9           (3) The economic impact of sports betting on  
10          intercollegiate sports extends beyond State borders  
11          and affects the national economy, including through  
12          revenue relating to advertising, broadcasting rights,  
13          and other commercial activities linked to intercolle-  
14          giate sports.

15          (4) Ensuring the welfare of student athletes is  
16          a national concern and regulation of betting prac-  
17          tices, particularly those involving the performance of  
18          student athletes, is essential to safeguard the integ-  
19          rity, well-being, and educational environments of  
20          such athletes.

21          (5) The Federal Government has the authority  
22          under the Commerce Clause of the Constitution to  
23          regulate interstate commerce and, given the inter-  
24          state nature of sports betting, Federal regulation is

1 warranted to maintain consistent standards and pro-  
2 tect the interests of student athletes.

3 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON PROP BETS INVOLVING STUDENT**  
4 **ATHLETES.**

5 (a) PROHIBITION.—No individual or entity engaged  
6 in the business of betting or wagering may accept any bet  
7 or wager that includes a covered prop bet.

8 (b) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMIS-  
9 SION.—

10 (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRAC-  
11 TICES.—A violation of this section shall be treated  
12 as a violation of a regulation under section  
13 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act  
14 (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or decep-  
15 tive acts or practices.

16 (2) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—The Federal  
17 Trade Commission shall enforce this section in the  
18 same manner, by the same means, and with the  
19 same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all  
20 applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade  
21 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incor-  
22 porated into and made a part of this section. Any  
23 person who violates this section shall be subject to  
24 the penalties and entitled to the privileges and im-

1 munities provided in the Federal Trade Commission  
2 Act.

3 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) COVERED PROP BET.—The term “covered  
5 prop bet” means a bet or wager on the occurrence  
6 or non-occurrence, with respect to an intercollegiate  
7 sporting event, of an action or achievement by a stu-  
8 dent athlete that may or may not have a direct bear-  
9 ing on the final result of any such sporting event.

10 (2) INTERCOLLEGIATE SPORTING EVENT.—The  
11 term “intercollegiate sporting event” means a sport-  
12 ing event played at the collegiate level for which eli-  
13 gibility requirements for participation by a student  
14 athlete are established by a national association for  
15 the promotion or regulation of college athletics.

16 (3) STUDENT ATHLETE.—The term “student  
17 athlete” means an individual who engages in any  
18 intercollegiate sporting event.

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