106TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H. R. 1449

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit sports agents from influencing college athletes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 15, 1999

Mr. GORDON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit sports agents from influencing college athletes.

- 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 "Collegiate Athletics
- 5 Integrity Act of 1999".
- 6 SEC. 2. INFLUENCE BY SPORTS AGENTS OF COLLEGE ATH-
- 7 LETES PROHIBITED.
- 8 (a) In General.—Chapter 11 of title 18, United
- 9 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 10 lowing:

| 1 | "§ 226. Influence by sports agents of college athletes |
|----|--|
| 2 | prohibited |
| 3 | "(a) Whoever being a sports agent knowingly influ- |
| 4 | ences a college athlete to terminate that athlete's college |
| 5 | eligibility, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned for |
| 6 | not more than 3 years, or both. |
| 7 | "(b) As used in this section— |
| 8 | "(1) the term 'influence' means to induce by— |
| 9 | "(A) a gift or a loan of money, property or |
| 10 | services; or |
| 11 | "(B) offering to procure employment for; |
| 12 | "(2) the term 'sports agent' means a person— |
| 13 | "(A) who directly or indirectly solicits a |
| 14 | college athlete to enter into a contract or agree- |
| 15 | ment authorizing such person to represent the |
| 16 | athlete in the marketing of such athlete's ability |
| 17 | or reputation in a sport; and |
| 18 | "(B) who operates in or whose activities |
| 19 | affect interstate commerce; |
| 20 | "(3) the term 'college athlete' means a student, |
| 21 | enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree |
| 22 | granting program of an institution, who— |
| 23 | "(A) has informed the institution, in writ- |
| 24 | ing, of the student's intention to participate in |
| 25 | the institution's intercollegiate athletic pro- |
| 26 | gram: or |

| 1 | "(B) participates in the institution's inter- |
|----|---|
| 2 | collegiate athletic program, |
| 3 | and is eligible to participate under the rules of the |
| 4 | institution's governing national intercollegiate ath- |
| 5 | letic association; |
| 6 | "(4) the term 'college eligibility' means eligi- |
| 7 | bility to participate in an institution's intercollegiate |
| 8 | athletic program under the rules of the institution's |
| 9 | governing national intercollegiate athletic associa- |
| 10 | tion; |
| 11 | "(5) the term 'institution' means an institution |
| 12 | of higher learning, as that term is defined in section |
| 13 | 1201(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 |
| 14 | U.S.C. 1141(a)), which offers an intercollegiate ath- |
| 15 | letic program; |
| 16 | "(6) the term 'national intercollegiate athletic |
| 17 | association' means an association which— |
| 18 | "(A) has 2 or more member institutions; |
| 19 | and |
| 20 | "(B) has adopted, accepted, or put into ef- |
| 21 | fect rules for the conduct of the intercollegiate |
| 22 | athletic teams which are members of that asso- |
| 23 | ciation and for the regulation of contests in |
| 24 | which such teams engage; and |

| 1 | "(7) the term 'governing national intercollegiate |
|---|--|
| 2 | athletic association' means the national intercolle- |
| 3 | giate athletic association of which the institution is |
| 4 | a member.". |
| | |

- 5 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
- 6 at the beginning of chapter 11 of title 18, United States
- 7 Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new
- 8 item:

"226. Influence by sports agents of college athletes prohibited.".

 \bigcirc