

athlete, or, if the student athlete is under the age of 18, the signature of such student athlete's parent or legal guardian, a conspicuous notice in boldface type stating: "Warning to Student Athlete: If you agree orally or in writing to be represented by an agent now or in the future you may lose your eligibility to compete as a student athlete in your sport. Within 72 hours after entering into this contract or before the next athletic event in which you are eligible to participate, whichever occurs first, both you and the agent by whom you are agreeing to be represented must notify the athletic director of the educational institution at which you are enrolled, or other individual responsible for athletic programs at such educational institution, that you have entered into an agency contract."

(Pub. L. 108-304, §3, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1126.)

### § 7803. Enforcement

#### (a) Unfair or deceptive act or practice

A violation of this chapter shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

#### (b) Actions by the Commission

The Commission shall enforce this chapter in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 108-304, §4, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1127.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Trade Commission Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is act Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, 38 Stat. 717, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§41 et seq.) of chapter 2 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 58 of this title and Tables.

### § 7804. Actions by States

#### (a) In general

##### (1) Civil actions

In any case in which the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of that State has been or is threatened or adversely affected by the engagement of any athlete agent in a practice that violates section 7802 of this title, the State may bring a civil action on behalf of the residents of the State in a district court of the United States of appropriate jurisdiction to—

- (A) enjoin that practice;
- (B) enforce compliance with this chapter;

or

- (C) obtain damage, restitution, or other compensation on behalf of residents of the State.

##### (2) Notice

##### (A) In general

Before filing an action under paragraph (1), the attorney general of the State involved shall provide to the Commission—

- (i) written notice of that action; and
- (ii) a copy of the complaint for that action.

#### (B) Exemption

Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to the filing of an action by an attorney general of a State under this subsection, if the attorney general determines that it is not feasible to provide the notice described in that subparagraph before filing of the action. In such case, the attorney general of a State shall provide notice and a copy of the complaint to the Commission at the same time as the attorney general files the action.

#### (b) Intervention

##### (1) In general

On receiving notice under subsection (a)(2), the Commission shall have the right to intervene in the action that is the subject of the notice.

##### (2) Effect of intervention

If the Commission intervenes in an action under subsection (a), it shall have the right—

- (A) to be heard with respect to any matter that arises in that action; and
- (B) to file a petition for appeal.

#### (c) Construction

For purposes of bringing any civil action under subsection (a), nothing in this chapter<sup>1</sup> shall be construed to prevent an attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general by the laws of that State to—

- (1) conduct investigations;
- (2) administer oaths or affirmations; or
- (3) compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary and other evidence.

#### (d) Actions by the Commission

In any case in which an action is instituted by or on behalf of the Commission for a violation of section 7802 of this title, no State may, during the pendency of that action, institute an action under subsection (a) against any defendant named in the complaint in that action.

#### (e) Venue

Any action brought under subsection (a) may be brought in the district court of the United States that meets applicable requirements relating to venue under section 1391 of title 28.

#### (f) Service of process

In an action brought under subsection (a), process may be served in any district in which the defendant—

- (1) is an inhabitant; or
- (2) may be found.

(Pub. L. 108-304, §5, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1127.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original "this title" and was translated as reading "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 108-304, to reflect the prob-

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

able intent of Congress, because Pub. L. 108-304 does not contain titles.

### § 7805. Protection of educational institution

#### (a) Notice required

Within 72 hours after entering into an agency contract or before the next athletic event in which the student athlete may participate, whichever occurs first, the athlete agent and the student athlete shall each inform the athletic director of the educational institution at which the student athlete is enrolled, or other individual responsible for athletic programs at such educational institution, that the student athlete has entered into an agency contract, and the athlete agent shall provide the athletic director with notice in writing of such a contract.

#### (b) Civil remedy

##### (1) In general

An educational institution has a right of action against an athlete agent for damages caused by a violation of this chapter.

##### (2) Damages

Damages of an educational institution may include and are limited to actual losses and expenses incurred because, as a result of the conduct of the athlete agent, the educational institution was injured by a violation of this chapter or was penalized, disqualified, or suspended from participation in athletics by a national association for the promotion and regulation of athletics, by an athletic conference, or by reasonable self-imposed disciplinary action taken to mitigate actions likely to be imposed by such an association or conference.

##### (3) Costs and attorneys fees

In an action taken under this section, the court may award to the prevailing party costs and reasonable attorneys fees.

##### (4) Effect on other rights, remedies and defenses

This section does not restrict the rights, remedies, or defenses of any person under law or equity.

(Pub. L. 108-304, §6, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1128.)

### § 7806. Limitation

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit an individual from seeking any remedies available under existing Federal or State law or equity.

(Pub. L. 108-304, §7, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1128.)

### § 7807. Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that States should enact the Uniform Athlete Agents Act of 2000 drafted by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, to protect student athletes and the integrity of amateur sports from unscrupulous sports agents. In particular, it is the sense of Congress that States should enact the provisions relating to the registration of sports agents, the required form of contract, the right of the student athlete to cancel an agency contract, the disclosure requirements relating to record maintenance, report-

ing, renewal, notice, warning, and security, and the provisions for reciprocity among the States.

(Pub. L. 108-304, §8, Sept. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 1129.)

## CHAPTER 105—PROTECTION OF LAWFUL COMMERCE IN ARMS

Sec.

7901.	Findings; purposes.
7902.	Prohibition on bringing of qualified civil liability actions in Federal or State court.
7903.	Definitions.

### § 7901. Findings; purposes

#### (a) Findings

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution provides that the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

(2) The Second Amendment to the United States Constitution protects the rights of individuals, including those who are not members of a militia or engaged in military service or training, to keep and bear arms.

(3) Lawsuits have been commenced against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and importers of firearms that operate as designed and intended, which seek money damages and other relief for the harm caused by the misuse of firearms by third parties, including criminals.

(4) The manufacture, importation, possession, sale, and use of firearms and ammunition in the United States are heavily regulated by Federal, State, and local laws. Such Federal laws include the Gun Control Act of 1968, the National Firearms Act [26 U.S.C. 5801 et seq.], and the Arms Export Control Act [22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.].

(5) Businesses in the United States that are engaged in interstate and foreign commerce through the lawful design, manufacture, marketing, distribution, importation, or sale to the public of firearms or ammunition products that have been shipped or transported in interstate or foreign commerce are not, and should not, be liable for the harm caused by those who criminally or unlawfully misuse firearm products or ammunition products that function as designed and intended.

(6) The possibility of imposing liability on an entire industry for harm that is solely caused by others is an abuse of the legal system, erodes public confidence in our Nation's laws, threatens the diminution of a basic constitutional right and civil liberty, invites the disassembly and destabilization of other industries and economic sectors lawfully competing in the free enterprise system of the United States, and constitutes an unreasonable burden on interstate and foreign commerce of the United States.

(7) The liability actions commenced or contemplated by the Federal Government, States, municipalities, and private interest groups and others are based on theories without foundation in hundreds of years of the common law and jurisprudence of the United States and do not represent a bona fide expansion of the common law. The possible sustaining of these