

Submitter: Sarah Kester
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1193
Chairperson and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah Kester, and I am a resident of Keizer, Oregon. I'm writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 1193, which would allow Oregon's post-secondary institutions to provide fair compensation to student-athletes for the use of their name, image, likeness (NIL), or athletic reputation.

Student-athletes dedicate countless hours to their sport—training, traveling, competing—all while balancing the demands of college coursework. These young people bring in millions of dollars to our universities through ticket sales, media deals, and merchandise, yet most receive little or no compensation beyond a scholarship. That is simply not equitable.

SB 1193 is a step in the right direction. By allowing universities to directly compensate student-athletes for their NIL, Oregon will join a growing number of states that recognize the rights of students to benefit from their own labor and personal brand. This legislation ensures that Oregon's institutions are not at a competitive disadvantage, and more importantly, it provides a fair and ethical model that acknowledges the value student-athletes bring to their schools and communities.

As a citizen and taxpayer, I want to see Oregon support our students not just as athletes, but as individuals with agency and rights. These young people deserve opportunities to support themselves and their families without risking their eligibility or future careers.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB 1193 and affirm Oregon's commitment to fairness, opportunity, and respect for student-athletes.

Sincerely,
Sarah Kester
Keizer, Oregon