2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 147

February 20, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives Murphy, Shankland, Anderson and Tusler. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: encouraging and informing the National Collegiate Athletic Association on its policy to allow students participating in athletics to benefit from the use of their name, image, and likeness.

Whereas, the National Collegiate Athletic Association Board of Governors voted unanimously on October 29, 2019, to permit students participating in athletics the opportunity to benefit from the use of their name, image, and likeness in a manner consistent with the collegiate model; and

Whereas, the National Collegiate Athletic Association Board of Governors’ action directs each of the National Collegiate Athletic Association’s three divisions to immediately consider updates to relevant bylaws and policies and to create new rules beginning immediately, but no later than January 2021; and

Whereas, Wisconsin colleges and universities have a long-standing, proud tradition of placing academics, individual freedom, and fair competition ahead of athletic revenue generation; now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature encourage the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and its divisions, to fulfill the commitment made unanimously by its Board of Governors on October 29, 2019, and implement a national policy on student athletes that puts students first by maximizing individual student freedom, reasserting the value of amateurism for all people involved in college sports, and ensuring a level playing field for recruitment and competition for all colleges and universities; and, be it further

Resolved, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature believe the policy implemented by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and its divisions must:

1. Be clear that student-athletes are not college employees and should be subject to the same code of conduct, privileges, expectations, and responsibilities as other students involved in extracurricular activities;

2. Value student-athlete talent, time, and effort by not prioritizing athletics or revenue ahead of the educational mission of our institutions;

3. Be clear, consistent, transparent, and fully enforceable, ensuring fair play, recruitment free of monetary considerations, and balanced competition;

4. Create a distinct and intentional separation between professional and collegiate sports; and

5. Reestablish a definite prohibition on compensation from institutions for all student-athletes involved in college sports; and, be it further

Resolved, That given the commitment made by the National Collegiate Athletic Association, the members of the Wisconsin Legislature feel that amending the state statutes is not necessary at this time; however, if at any time it appears that the National Collegiate Athletic Association is not following through on its
commitment to protect the liberties of student-athletes in Wisconsin, there is a
strong bipartisan coalition of legislators and university officials prepared to stand
up for students.

(END)