

Oregon State House of Reps
HB 4093

My name is Nicholas Pard I am a former player of the Canadian Hockey league. I played 3 years in the CHL. I signed my contract and was promised a post secondary education school package for every Year I played. My main goal was to try and make the NHL. After realizing my dream of making the NHL was not going to come true. I then looked for other avenues to pursue my goal and dream of playing hockey.

After those avenues closed for me I then approached the league to obtain my education package for the 3 years of service I provided to the hockey club. I was denied my education school package because it appeared there was a time restriction on the education package that was not in the player contract. They also denied me on the grounds that I had the necessary "TOOLS" and help to successfully pass my university classes and that a lot of the other players had passed their courses (which is completely false because I am still in contact with 3/4 of these guys) when playing hockey with the heavy schedule of hockey and travel and work outs every day no one could take classes full time nor could even focus on education with the amount of travel and hockey being played.

I was not monitored by the team during this time and did not know if i was to fail the courses that it would of jeopardize my education packages.

I now struggle with debt after putting myself through school I attempted to settle this dispute with the league and informed them of legal action if I did not get my school paid for the years. I provided services to the team but they let me hang there on the vine. With no appeal process and no other avenue left and no monies for lawyers, I am forced now to pay the debt of my self and I can insure you that it is a very difficult situation for my wife and I with 2 young children !

To this day i don't understand as to why someone could not pay or honour a contract for service that I provided for the team in the business of hockey. It took years for me to come out and speak to this issue. Its wrong what they have done I am not the only one I am the one of many.. For a league that prides itself on education package not to pay up for a players education package is gutless. I provided service to the club the benefited from my services for them and look for legal loop holes is a shame.

I am now speaking up for players that are still fearful to speak up as I was but now I am not.

Its the players that need protection not the owners of the clubs.

Thank you,