



PETER COURTNEY
President of the Senate

Senate Committee on Labor and Business

Senator Kathleen Taylor, Chair
Senator Tim Knopp, Vice-Chair
Senator Bill Hansell
Senator Kayse Jama
Senator Kate Lieber

*TESTIMONY BY SENATOR PETER COURTNEY
SB 1505
February 3, 2022*

Chair Taylor, Vice-Chair Knopp, members of the Senate Committee on Labor and Business, thank you for hearing my testimony today. My name is Peter Courtney. I am a State Senator. I live in NE Salem.

I am here to testify in support of Senate Bill 1505.

SB 1505 builds on Oregon's work from last session to ensure college athletes are fairly compensated for the use of their name, image, and likeness.

Under the bill, producers of Oregon college team jerseys, video games, and trading cards must pay a royalty to each college athlete whose name, image, or likeness is used.

Last year, we passed the first step in what I call Pay to Play.

We gave college athletes the right to sign contracts, such as endorsement deals or appearance fees, for the use of their name, image, and likeness.

Our athletes sacrifice everything for their universities:

- Their bodies
- Their academics
- Their relationships
- Their families

Our bill made it possible for them to finally earn pay for the millions in revenue they generate for the NCAA and universities.

That was a historic move for college athletics in Oregon, but we're not finished.

I want every player to benefit, not just your star athletes.

This bill levels the playing field by allowing your everyday player to take advantage of their play on the field or court.

Players would receive a royalty when their name, image, or likeness is used on a trading card, video game, or jersey.

That means a pack of trading cards depicting the Oregon State University women's basketball team would send a royalty to each player on the team.

28 states now have laws allowing college athletes to earn compensation from their name, image, and likeness.

This bill matches a law passed in Pennsylvania last year.

It's a natural next step to keep Oregon's colleges competitive with the rest of the nation.

College athletes prop up a billion-dollar industry.

Manufacturers can participate in this industry by copying the name, photo, and look of our college players onto their products and make a profit.

I'm asking with this bill to allow our athletes, who sacrifice so much for their teams, to be able to participate as well.

They have more than earned their share.

Thank you. I hope you will join me in taking this important next step in ensuring the fair treatment of Oregon's athletes.