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The Honorable Colorado General Assembly
75th General Assembly
First Regular Session
Colorado State Capitol
200 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO, 80203

Dear Honorable Members of the Colorado General Assembly,

Today, I signed into law House Bill 25-1041, “Concerning measures to support a student athlete in the use of their name, image, or likeness.”

I am signing this bill today to bring Colorado statute in line with the anticipated *House v. NCAA* settlement agreement (House Settlement), which is expected to be finalized and court-approved this spring, regarding the compensation of student athletes for their name, image, or likeness. Our student athletes should have the freedom to contract and develop their careers, and our institutions of higher education should work to increase and retain top talent while supporting athletes in all aspects of their careers. I support college athletics and recognize Colorado’s esteemed institutions of higher education must remain a competitive destination, whether that be for athletics, academics, our world class outdoors, or other pursuits.

While I support the bill and its goals, there are issues regarding transparency that were not addressed during the legislative process that I would like to see addressed in the future. In particular, I have concerns about the bill’s new Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) exception regarding student athlete contracts. While the bill’s exception is narrowly tailored, it follows an unfortunate trend of legislative proposals that ultimately impede access to official records that are arguably within the public’s interest to view. These exceptions move transparency in the wrong direction and any other proposals that further prevent or delay public access to information will be carefully reviewed.

I encourage my colleagues in the General Assembly to consider transparency across all public institutions and to balance legitimate reasons for exceptions with the public interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor
State of Colorado