

SENATE BILL 2804

By Akbari

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to student athletes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following language as a new section:

(a) As used in this section, "student athlete" has the same meaning as in § 49-7-2102.

(b) A public institution of higher education shall not:

(1) Create or uphold any rule, requirement, standard, or other limitation that prevents a student athlete from earning compensation from the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness. Earning compensation from the use of a student athlete's name, image, or likeness shall not affect a student athlete's scholarship eligibility at a public institution of higher education;

(2) Prevent a student athlete from obtaining professional representation in relation to contracts or legal matters, including, representation provided by athlete agents in accordance with part 21 of this chapter or legal representation provided by attorneys;

(3) Enter into a contract that prevents a student athlete from using the student athlete's name, image, or likeness when the student athlete is not engaged in official activities associated with the public institution of higher education or a public institution of higher education athletic team; and

(4) Provide a prospective student athlete with compensation in relation to the student athlete's name, image, or likeness.

(c)

(1) A student athlete shall not enter into a contract that provides compensation to the student athlete for use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness if a provision of the contract is in conflict with a provision of the student athlete's team contract.

(2) A student athlete who enters into a contract that provides compensation to the student athlete for use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness must disclose the contract to an official of the public institution of higher education at which the student athlete participates in intercollegiate athletics, however, the public institution of higher education shall not punish a student for failure to disclose a contract entered into pursuant to this section.

(3) If the public institution of higher education finds a conflict between a student athlete's contract disclosed under subdivision (c)(2) and the student athlete's team contract, then the public institution of higher education shall disclose the alleged conflict to the student athlete or the student athlete's athlete agent or legal representative.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to contracts entered into on or after that date.