DRAFT

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

AMENDMENTS TO UNIFORM ATHLETE AGENTS ACT (2000)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF COMMISSIONERS ON UNIFORM STATE LAWS

For October 25 – 26, 2013 Drafting Committee Meeting

With Prefatory Note and Comments

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Prefatory Note

In this era in which many professional athletes are highly compensated, their agents perform many valuable services. Concomitantly, the practices of a minority of agents or would-be agents in obtaining the right to represent athletes who may produce substantial fees for their agents have caused serious problems for student-athletes and educational institutions. The tactics of this minority include secret payments or gifts to the athlete, undisclosed payments or gifts to friends and relatives who may be in a position to influence the athlete, unrealistic promises and considerable arm-twisting.

Headlines chronicle the results of these practices. Athletes lose eligibility and may damage promising professional careers. Universities and colleges are sanctioned. The sanctions can be very severe and may include loss of, or liability to return, substantial revenues for participation in post-season events. Frequently, the non-monetary sanctions have long-term, adverse effects on athletic programs. Perhaps as important as any other effect, the reputations of respected educational institutions are tarnished and there is a severe disruption in the activities of those responsible for administration of the institutions.

As a result of the foregoing, at least twenty-eight States have enacted legislation regulating athlete or sports agents. The statutes differ greatly. About two-thirds of the statutes impose registration requirements. There are substantial differences in the registration procedures, disclosures required and requirements relating to record maintenance, reporting, renewal, notice, warning and security. The term of the registration is one year in thirteen States, two years in four States, and two States do not specify a term. Most States require notification to States or educational institutions and athletes of certain matters, but the matters vary widely. Conscientious agents operating in more than a single State must have nightmares caused by the lack of uniformity in the existing statutes, the difficulty in compliance and the severity of penalties which may be imposed for violations.

Because of the lack of uniformity and lack of reciprocity provisions in existing statutes, the NCAA and several universities asked the Conference to undertake the drafting of a Uniform Act. After initial reluctance because of the state of its agenda, budgetary considerations and uncertainty that a Uniform Act in this area of the law conform to established criteria for undertaking drafting efforts, the Conference agreed to do so. The Drafting Committee met over a period of three years and had valuable input from athlete agents, coaches, individuals responsible for administering existing acts, and representatives of the players associations of the National Football League, the National Hockey League, major league baseball and the NCAA.

Many of the provisions in the Uniform Athlete Agents Act are similar or even identical to provisions found in some of the existing acts. The Uniform Act follows the majority of States which have required registration of athlete agents. Registration is required before initiating contact with a student-athlete to induce the signing of an agency contract. If the student-athlete initiates contact with an athlete agent, the athlete agent must apply for

registration within seven days after commencing any effort to induce the student-athlete to enter into an agency contract. The act includes a list of disclosures which must be made in the application for registration. It also includes a list of factors the administrator of the act must consider and a list of factors the administrator may consider in determining whether to issue a certificate of registration or suspend, revoke or refuse to renew a registration. The act specifies terms which must be included in an agency contract, requirements of notice to educational institutions after an agency contract has been entered into, the right of the student-athlete to cancel an agency contract within fourteen days after it is signed, and records which must be retained by the athlete agent. Enforcement of the act is provided for by sections which prohibit certain conduct and impose criminal and administrative penalties. The act also provides that an educational institution has civil remedies against either an athlete agent or a former student-athlete for damages caused by violation of the act.

The act does not require security in the form of malpractice insurance or surety bonds as about half of the existing acts do. Those types of security for athlete agents are not widely available. Insurance usually does not cover intentional acts of the type the act prohibits. Further, the existing acts require security in amounts ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Those amounts are inadequate to provide substantial protection. A requirement of greater security would be likely to reduce the already limited market which is available.

Most importantly, the act will establish uniformity and provide for reciprocity among the States adopting it. Provisions for reciprocity are found in the sections relating to registration. Administrators are permitted to accept copies of applications for registration filed in other States which adopt the Uniform Act and to consider actions taken in another State which has adopted the Uniform Act in deciding whether to deny, suspend, revoke or refuse to renew registration.

1	SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This [Act act] may be cited as the Amendments to
2	Uniform Athlete Agents Act.
3	Comment
4 5 6	The title Uniform Athlete Agents Act was selected because a majority of the existing acts regulating the activities of agents representing athletes have similar titles.
7	SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. In this [Act act]:
8	(1) "Agency contract" means an agreement in which a student-athlete_authorizes a
9	person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services
10	contract or an endorsement contract.
11	Alternative A
12	(2) "Athlete agent":
13	(A) includes means an individual who:
14	(i) enters into an agency contract with a student-athlete or, directly or
15	indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract:
16	(ii) seeks to obtain financial gain or benefit from securing the enrollment
17	of a student-athlete at an educational institution, unless the individual is an employee of the
18	institution; or
19	(iii) The term includes an individual who represents to the public that the
20	individual is an athlete agent:; and
21	(B) The term does not include a spouse, parent, sibling, [or] grandparent[, or
22	guardian] of the student-athlete or an individual acting solely on behalf of a professional sports
23	team or professional sports organization.

1	Alternative B
2	(2) "Athlete agent":
3	(A) includes an individual who, directly or indirectly:
4	(i) recruits or solicits an athlete to enter into an agency contract,
5	endorsement contract, financial services contract, or professional sports services contract or, for
6	compensation, procures, offers, promises, attempts, or negotiates to obtain employment for an
7	individual with a profession sports team or organization or as a professional athlete; or
8	(ii) seeks to obtain financial gain or benefit from securing the enrollment
9	of a student-athlete at an educational institution, unless the individual is an employee of the
10	institution; and
11	(B) does not include:
12	(i) an individual licensed as an attorney, dealer in securities, financial
13	planner, insurance agent, real estate broker or sales agent, tax consultant, or member of another
14	profession, when the individual offers or provides the type of services customarily provided by
15	that profession, except to the extent the individual also recruits or solicits an athlete to enter
16	into an agency contract, endorsement contract, or professional sports services contract or, for
17	compensation, procures, offers, promises, attempts, or negotiates to obtain employment for an
18	individual with a professional sports team or organization or as a professional athlete; or
19	(ii) an individual acting solely on behalf of a professional sports team or
20	organization.
21	Alternative C
22	(2) "Athlete agent" means an individual, and any certified contract advisor, financial
23	advisor, marketing representative, brand manager, or other individual employed or associated

1	with the individual, who:
2	(A) represents or attempts to represent an individual for the purpose of
3	marketing his or her athletic ability or reputation for financial gain; or
4	(B) directly or indirectly seeks to obtain financial gain or benefit from securing
5	the enrollment of a student-athlete at an educational institution, unless the individual is an
6	employee of the institution.
7	Alternative D
8	(2) "Athlete agent":
9	(A) includes an individual, and any employee or other individual acting on
10	behalf of the individual, who, directly or indirectly:
11	(i) recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract;
12	(ii) for financial gain, procures, offers, promises, or attempts to obtain
13	employment or promotional fees or benefits for a student-athlete as a professional athlete, with
14	a professional sports team, or with a promoter that markets or attempts to market the athletic
15	ability or athletic reputation of the student-athlete; or
16	(iii) seeks to obtain financial gain or benefit from securing the
17	enrollment of a student-athlete at an educational institution, unless the individual is an
18	employee of the institution; and
19	(B) does not include a spouse, parent, sibling, grandparent, or guardian of the
20	student-athlete or an individual acting solely on behalf of a professional sports team or
21	professional sports organization.
22	End of Alternatives

Discussion of Alternatives

The definition of athlete agent in the existing UAAA was deliberately as broad as possible and intended to cover anyone who, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract. As the comments to the UAAA made clear, the definition was intended to bring in "runners". It also would include other individuals, such as an athlete agent's secretary or other individuals in the office of the athlete agent, who directly or indirectly recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract. As a result of the broad definition and the fact there are criminal penalties involved, some enforcement entities have expressed a reluctance to prosecute individuals operating as athlete agents who have not complied with the act.

Other issues relating to the definition of athlete agent include revising the definition to:
(1) Include persons who, for consideration, secure the enrollment of the student-athlete at a particular institution, as was done in Mississippi and is included in the NCAA definition.

- (2) Expand the coverage of the act to include the ongoing relationship between a professional athlete and his or her agent, as was done in California.
- (3) Involve the concept of consideration, as was done in the definition of athlete agent adopted by the NCAA.
- (4) Specifically include coaches or assistant coaches who encourage student-athletes to contract with the agent of the coach.

The draft presents four alternatives:

All four alternative contain language that includes within the definition of athlete agent an individual who arranges for the enrollment of a student-athlete at a particular institution for any type of financial gain or benefit. None of the alternatives includes language that specifically includes within the definition of athlete agent coaches or assistant coaches who directly or indirectly recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract with a particular athlete agent since, except for Alternative C, coaches or assistant coaches who do that are already covered. Finally, except for Alternative C, all of the alternatives contain specific exemptions for various classes of individuals. These exemptions vary from alternative to alternative.

The first alternative is the existing UAAA definition of athlete agent with the addition of the enrollment language.

The second alternative is the California definition of athlete agent, which expands the UAAA definition to include contracts between professional athletes and athlete agents, with the enrollment language.

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The third alternative is the NCAA definition of athlete agent, which limits the definition to an individual who for financial gain represents or seeks to represent personally a student-athlete (rather than including individuals who attempt to get a student-athlete to be represented by some other individual), introduces the concept of compensation as an element of the definition, and contains the enrollment language. It does not apply to a coach or assistant coach because it only applies to a person who "represents or seeks to represent an individual....for

1 financial gain." Regardless of whether the coach was acting for personal financial gain, the 2 attempt would be to have someone else represent the student-athlete. 3 4 The fourth alternative is based on the Florida definition of athlete agent, which contains 5 the directly or indirectly recruits or solicits language of the existing UAAA definition and alternatively adds a financial gain provision, with the enrollment language. 6 7 8 Depending upon which alternative is selected, conforming changes may be required. 9 10 (3) "Athletic director" means an individual responsible for administering the overall 11 athletic program of an educational institution or, if an educational institution has separately 12 administered athletic programs for male students and female students, the athletic program for 13 males or the athletic program for females, as appropriate. 14 (4) "Contact" means a communication, direct or indirect, between an athlete agent and 15 a student-athlete, to recruit or solicit the student-athlete to enter into an agency contract. 16 (5) "Endorsement contract" means an agreement under which a student-athlete is employed or receives consideration to use on behalf of the other party any value that the 17 18 student-athlete may have because of publicity, reputation, following, or fame obtained because 19 of athletic ability or performance. 20 (6) "Intercollegiate sport" means a sport played at the collegiate level for which 21 eligibility requirements for participation by a student-athlete are established by a national 22 association for the promotion or regulation of collegiate athletics. 23 (7) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, 24 limited liability company, association, joint venture, business or nonprofit entity, public 25 corporation, government; or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality,; public

(8) "Professional-sports-services contract" means an agreement under which an individual is employed, or agrees to render services, as a player on a professional sports team,

corporation, or any other legal or commercial entity.

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- or with a professional sports organization, or as a professional athlete.
- 2 (9) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored
- 3 in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.
- 4 (10) "Registration" means registration as an athlete agent pursuant to this [Aet act].
- 5 (11) "State" means a State state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto
- 6 Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the
- 7 jurisdiction of the United States.
- 8 (12) "Student-athlete" means an individual who engages in, is eligible to engage in, or
- 9 may be eligible in the future to engage in, any intercollegiate sport. If an individual is
- permanently ineligible to participate in a particular intercollegiate sport, the individual is not a
- student-athlete for purposes of that sport.

12 Comment

Only individuals are within the definition of "athlete agent" and therefore required to register under Section 5. Corporations and other business entities do not come within the definition of "athlete agent" and therefore are not required to register under the act, even though individuals employed by the corporation or other business entity as athlete agents would be required to register. The definition also includes other individuals or "runners" used by an agent to recruit or solicit a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract. Attorneys are not excluded from the definition. An attorney does not need to comply with the provisions of this act in order to provide legal services to a student-athlete, but is required to register to perform the services of an athlete agent.

Representatives of "professional sports teams or professional sports organizations," such as baseball teams, are excluded from the definition of "athlete agent" as long as they are acting for their teams or organizations. If a representative should attempt to induce a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract, rather than a contract with the team or organization, registration is required. Also excluded from the definition are individuals who simply provide information to a student-athlete, but who do not recruit or solicit the student-athlete to sign an agency contract. For example, a professional athlete who gives a student-athlete information about the qualifications of an athlete agent is not required to register unless the professional athlete also attempts to recruit or solicit the student-athlete to sign an agency contract. In the exclusion of certain family members from the definition of "athlete agent," the phrase "or guardian" is bracketed because some States states may use another term to describe an individual who has legal responsibility for the care of another.

The definition of "contact" does not include communications which merely provide information to the student-athlete. For example, a communication about the position a studentathlete could reasonably expect to have in a professional draft does not constitute recruitment or solicitation to enter into an agency contract. The definition of "student-athlete" applies to a two-sport athlete who has eligibility remaining in one sport. For example, an individual who has signed a contract to play professional basketball is not a student-athlete in basketball, but is a student-athlete in baseball. The definition of "student-athlete" also includes individuals who are not yet in college. It includes high school students, high school dropouts and high school graduates who have delayed matriculation to a college or university so long as the individual may have future eligibility for intercollegiate sports. SECTION 3. SERVICE OF PROCESS; SUBPOENAS SUBPOENA. [(a)] By acting as an athlete agent in this State state, a nonresident individual appoints the [Secretary of State] as the individual's agent for service of process in any civil action in this State state related to the individual's acting as an athlete agent in this State state. [(b)] [The [Secretary of State] may issue subpoenas a subpoena for any material that is relevant to the administration of this [Act act].] **Comment** The office of Secretary of State has been designated as the administrator of existing acts regulating the activities of athlete agents in 19 states which is more frequently than any other office. The office of Secretary of State is referred to in subsection (b) and throughout this act. It is recognized, however, that the appropriate state office to administer this act may vary from State state to State and, therefore, references to the Secretary of State are in brackets. Subsection (b) is in brackets because it may not be required under the administrative procedure acts of some States states. If subsection (b) is not used, the remainder of the section should not be designated as (a). SECTION 4. ATHLETE AGENTS AGENT: REGISTRATION REQUIRED; **VOID CONTRACTS CONTRACT.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), an individual may not act as an

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athlete agent in this State state without holding a certificate of registration under Section 6 or 8.

(b) Before being issued a certificate of registration under Section 5, 6, or 8, an

1	individual may act as an athlete agent in this State for all purposes except signing an
2	agency contract, if:
3	(1) a student-athlete or another person acting on behalf of the student-athlete
4	initiates communication with the individual; and
5	(2) within not later than seven days after an initial act that requires the individual
6	to register as an athlete agent, the individual submits an application for registration as an athlete
7	agent in this State state.
8	(c) An agency contract resulting from conduct in violation of this section is void and
9	the athlete agent shall must return any consideration received under the contract.
10	Comment
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	The intent of this section is to make the registration requirement as broad as constitutionally permissible consistent with the minimum contacts theory of <i>International Shoe Company v. Washington</i> , 326 U.S. 310 (1945). Agents must register in each State state in which they have established minimum contacts. For example, an individual in State A contacting a student-athlete in State B is acting as an athlete agent in both States states and is therefore required to register in both States states. Subsection (b) provides a safe harbor for an unregistered individual with whom a student-athlete initiates communications. The individual must apply for registration within seven days from the beginning of any effort to recruit or solicit the student-athlete to enter into agency contract. If the individual does not attempt to recruit or solicit the student-athlete to sign an agency contract, registration is not required. References to "days" in this section and throughout the act mean calendar days. In addition to the penalties which may be imposed under Sections 15 and 17, subsection (c) discourages contact with a student-athlete by an individual who has not registered as an athlete agent. An agency contract resulting from that contract is void, not merely voidable. SECTION 5. REGISTRATION AS ATHLETE AGENT; FORM;
30	REQUIREMENTS.
31	(a) An Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), an applicant for registration as
32	an athlete agent shall must submit an application for registration to the [Secretary of State] in a
33	form prescribed by the [Secretary of State]. [An application filed under this section is a public

1	record.] The application must be in the name of an individual, and, except as otherwise
2	provided in subsection (b), signed or otherwise authenticated by the applicant under penalty of
3	perjury, and state or contain:
4	(1) the name of the applicant and the address of the applicant's principal place of
5	business;
6	(2) the name of the applicant's business or employer, if applicable;
7	(3) any business or occupation engaged in by the applicant for the five years
8	next preceding the date of submission of the application;
9	(4) a description of the applicant's:
10	(A) formal training as an athlete agent;
11	(B) practical experience as an athlete agent; and
12	(C) educational background relating to the applicant's activities as an
13	athlete agent;
14	(5) the names and addresses of three individuals not related to the applicant who
15	are willing to serve as references;
16	(6) the name, sport, and last known team for each individual for whom the
17	applicant acted as an athlete agent during the five years next preceding the date of submission
18	of the application;
19	(7) the names and addresses of all persons who are:
20	(A) with respect to the athlete agent's business if it is not a corporation,
21	the partners, members, officers, managers, associates, or profit-sharers of the business; and
22	(B) with respect to a corporation employing the athlete agent, the
23	officers, and directors, and any shareholder of the corporation having an interest of five percent

1	or	greater;
1	OI	greater,

2	(8) whether the applicant or any person named pursuant to paragraph (7) has
3	been convicted of a crime that, if committed in this State state, would be a crime involving
4	moral turpitude or a felony, and identify the crime;

- (9) whether there has been any an administrative or judicial determination that the applicant or any person named pursuant to paragraph (7) has made a false, misleading, deceptive, or fraudulent representation;
- (10) any instance in which the conduct of the applicant or any person named pursuant to paragraph (7) resulted in the imposition of a sanction, suspension, or declaration of ineligibility to participate in an interscholastic or intercollegiate athletic event on a student-athlete or educational institution;
- (11) any sanction, suspension, or disciplinary action taken against the applicant or any person named pursuant to paragraph (7) arising out of occupational or professional conduct; and
- (12) whether there has been any a denial of an application for, suspension or revocation of, or refusal to renew, the registration or licensure of the applicant or any person named pursuant to paragraph (7) as an athlete agent in any State state.
- (b) An individual who has submitted an application for, and holds a certificate of, registration or licensure as an athlete agent in another State, may submit a copy of the application and certificate in lieu of submitting an application in the form prescribed pursuant to subsection (a). The [Secretary of State] shall accept the application and the certificate from the other State as an application for registration in this State if the application to the other State:
 - (1) was submitted in the other State within six months next preceding the

24	Most of the requirements for disclosure in an application for registration found in
23	Comment
22	or both.
21	against registered athlete agents, with those national organizations or agencies in other states,
20	(2) shall exchange information, including information related to actions taken
19	which states have laws that are substantially similar to or more restrictive than this [act]; and
18	agent issues or agencies in other states which register athlete agents, or both, to determine
17	(1) shall cooperate with national organizations that are concerned with athlete
16	(c) For purposes of implementing subsection (b), the [Secretary of State]:
15	individual or the registration.
14	other state involving the individual's conduct as an athlete agent is pending against the
13	(2) the registration has not been revoked or suspended and no action by the
12	substantially similar to or more restrictive than this [act]; and
11	(1) the law of the other state under which the individual is registered is
10	individual if the [Secretary of State] determines:
9	the applicable fee. The [Secretary of State] shall issue a certificate of registration to the
8	for registration and the registration from the other state to the [Secretary of State] and paying
7	athlete agent in another state may register in this state by submitting a copy of the application
6	(b) In lieu of proceeding under subsection (a), an individual who is registered as an
5	(3) was signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury.
4	that required in an application submitted in this State; and
3	(2) contains information substantially similar to or more comprehensive than
2	contained in the application is current;
1	submission of the application in this State and the applicant certifies that the information

subsection (a) are similar to requirements imposed by existing acts. Subsection (a)(6) is not intended to cause an athlete agent who is also an attorney to violate the attorney-client privilege. If an attorney's role is limited to providing legal services to a student-athlete, the attorney is not required to register as an athlete agent or comply with this act. An attorney's actions as an athlete agent, however, are outside the scope of legal services, there is no privilege and the attorney must comply with this act.

It is the intent of this section to require that records concerning registration of athletes be open to the public. The provision in subsection (a) about an application being a public record is bracketed because it is not necessary in States which have other applicable law causing the records to be open to the public.

Subsection (b) provides for reciprocal use of applications in States which have adopted the Uniform Act. The need for an agent to comply with substantially different application procedures in multiple jurisdictions is eliminated. It is the first of a number of reciprocity provisions found in the act which are intended to ease the burden placed on agents by substantially different registration requirements and to simplify enforcement of the act. Absence of reciprocity provisions in existing acts is a primary reason why the Uniform Act is needed.

Subsections (b) and (c) are an attempt to strengthen the reciprocity provisions of the original UAAA. The original UAAA provided that an individual registered in another state could submit an application for registration in that state to the [Secretary of State] in the enacting state if it had been submitted in the state of registration within the previous six months and the applicant certified the information was current. The [Secretary of State] in the enacting state would then proceed on that application and determine whether the individual should be registered, applying the test of Section 6(b). In other words, the current UAAA provision merely substituted the application in another state for the application in the enacting state and did nothing to reduce the workload of the [Secretary of State] in the enacting state. The changes in subsection (b) would add the registration from the other state for the application. Thus, the [Secretary of State] in the enacting state, without having to apply the Section 6(b) test, would register in that state an athlete agent registered in another state if the law of the other state was substantially similar or more restrictive than the enacting state **and** the registration in the other state was in good standing and no actions were pending against it. This provision should substantially encourage uniformity between the states. This change also should significantly reduce the cost of registration in subsequent states and make it less burdensome on athlete agents who wish to operate in multiple states.

 Subsection (c) requires the [Secretary of State] to cooperate and exchange information with national organizations that are concerned with athlete agent issues, such as the National Association of Secretaries of State, National Football League Players Association, NCCA, etc., or any other organization may be created in the future, and the agencies in other states that register athlete agents. The purpose of this requirement is to encourage current national organizations to operate as a "clearing house" for information to determine which laws are substantially similar or more restrictive for purposes of reciprocal licensing and to exchange information about actions taken against athlete agents by the various organizations or the

1 2 3	various states. SECTION 6. CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION; ISSUANCE OR DENIAL;
4	RENEWAL.
5	(a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the [Secretary of State] shall issue a
6	certificate of registration to an individual who complies with Section 5(a) or whose application
7	has been accepted under Section 5(b).
8	(b) The [Secretary of State] may refuse to issue a certificate of registration to an
9	individual who also submits an application under Section 5(a) if the [Secretary of State]
10	determines that the applicant has engaged in conduct that has a significant adverse effect on the
11	applicant's fitness to act as an athlete agent. In making the determination, the [Secretary of
12	State] may consider whether the applicant has:
13	(1) been convicted of a crime that, if committed in this State state, would be a
14	crime involving moral turpitude or a felony;
15	(2) made a materially false, misleading, deceptive, or fraudulent representation
16	in the application or as an athlete agent;
17	(3) engaged in conduct that would disqualify the applicant from serving in a
18	fiduciary capacity;
19	(4) engaged in conduct prohibited by Section 14;
20	(5) had a registration or licensure as an athlete agent suspended, revoked, or
21	denied or been refused renewal of registration or licensure as an athlete agent in any State state
22	(6) engaged in conduct the consequence of which was that a sanction,
23	suspension, or declaration of ineligibility to participate in an interscholastic or intercollegiate
24	athletic event was imposed on a student-athlete or educational institution; or

1	(/) engaged in conduct that significantly adversely reflects on the applicant's
2	credibility, honesty, or integrity.
3	(c) In making a determination under subsection (b), the [Secretary of State] shall
4	consider:
5	(1) how recently the conduct occurred;
6	(2) the nature of the conduct and the context in which it occurred; and
7	(3) any other relevant conduct of the applicant.
8	(d) An athlete agent who is registered under subsection (a) may apply to renew a
9	registration by submitting an application for renewal in a form prescribed by the [Secretary of
10	State]. [An application filed under this section is a public record.] The application for renewal
11	must be signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury and must contain current information
12	on all matters required in an original <u>application for</u> registration.
13	(e) An individual who has submitted an application for renewal of registration or
14	licensure in another State, in lieu of submitting an application for renewal in the form
15	prescribed pursuant to subsection (d), may file a copy of the application for renewal and a valid
16	certificate of registration or licensure from the other State. The [Secretary of State] shall accept
17	the application for renewal from the other State as an application for renewal in this State if the
18	application to the other State:
19	(1) was submitted in the other State within six months next preceding the filing
20	in this State and the applicant certifies the information contained in the application for renewal
21	is current;
22	(2) contains information substantially similar to or more comprehensive than
23	that required in an application for renewal submitted in this State; and

1	(3) was signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury.
2	(e) An athlete agent who is registered under Section 5 (b) may renew the registration by
3	proceeding under subsection (d) or, if the registration in the other state has been renewed, by
4	submitting a copy of the application for renewal in the other state and the renewal registration
5	from the other state to the [Secretary of State] and paying the applicable fee. The [Secretary of
6	State] shall renew the registration if the [Secretary of State] determines:
7	(1) the law of the other state under which the registration was renewed is
8	substantially similar to or more restrictive than the law of this state; and
9	(2) the renewed registration has not been revoked or suspended and no action by
10	the other state is pending against the individual or the renewed registration.
11	(f) A certificate of registration or a renewal of a registration <u>under this [act]</u> is valid for
12	[two] years.
13	Comment
14 15 16 17 18	This section includes many of the factors which are considered in determining whether to register athlete agents under existing legislation. In addition, the Secretary of State is authorized to consider action taken in another State, which has adopted the Uniform Act, regarding registration or licensure.
19 20 21	A requirement that Secretaries of State exchange information about denial, suspension, revocation or refusal to renew registration of athlete agents is beyond the scope of this act.
22	Since an agreement to exchange such information would reduce the expense of administering this act and provide for more effective enforcement, it seems likely the Secretaries of State will
23	enter into such an agreement.
24	
25	An individual who is not registered in another state and wishes to be registered in this
26	state is required to apply for initial registration under Section 5 (a) and renewal under
27	subsection (d) of this section. The [Secretary of State] may refuse to register on the grounds
28	contained in subsection (b). The only grounds for denial of registration under Section 5 (b) or
29	renewal of registration under subsection (e) of an individual registered in another state is that
30	the law of the other state is not substantially similar to or more restrictive than the law of the
31	enacting state or action against that individual by the other state.

1	SECTION 7. SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR REFUSAL TO RENEW
2	REGISTRATION.
3	[(a)] The [Secretary of State] may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a registration of
4	an individual registered under Section 6(a) for conduct that would have justified denial of
5	registration under Section 6(b).
6	(b) The [Secretary of State] may suspend or revoke the registration of an individual
7	registered under Section 5(b) for reasons that would have justified refusal to grant or renew
8	registration or for conduct that would have justified denial of registration of an individual
9	making application under Section 5(a).
10	[(b) (c) The [Secretary of State] may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a
11	certificate of registration or licensure under this [act] only after proper notice and an
12	opportunity for a hearing. The [Administrative Procedures Act] applies to this [Act act].]
13	Comment
14 15 16 17 18	Under subsection (a), the [Secretary of State] may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the registration of an individual whose registration is not based on registration in another state on the same grounds on which the original registration could have been refused under Section (b).
19 20 21 22	Under subsection (b), the [Secretary of State] may suspend or revoke the registration of an individual whose registration is based on registration in another state on the same basis that renewal of registration could have been refused or for any of the reasons specified in Section 6 (b).
23 24 25 26	By reference to Section 6(b), this section permits the Secretary of State to consider, among other things, actions in another State to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew registration.
27 28 29	"Administrative Procedures Act" is bracketed because some <u>States</u> may refer to laws relating to due process in administrative procedures by another name.
30	SECTION 8. TEMPORARY REGISTRATION. The [Secretary of State] may issue
31	a temporary certificate of registration as an athlete agent while an application for registration or
32	renewal of registration is pending.

1	Comment
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	The discretion to issue a temporary certificate of registration is broad enough to include issuance of such a certificate even where the registration may be contested. It is not necessary to issue a temporary certificate to protect an individual with whom a student-athlete initiated communications. Under Section 4(b), that individual is only required to file an application for registration within seven days after commencement of efforts to recruit or solicit the student-athlete to sign an agency contract.
9	SECTION 9. REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL FEES. An application for
10	registration or renewal of registration as an athlete agent must be accompanied by a fee in the
11	following amount:
12	(1) $\S[]$ for an initial application for registration;
13	(2) <u>\$[]</u> for an application for registration based upon on a certificate of registration
14	or licensure issued by another State state;
15	(3) $\S[]$ for an application for renewal of registration; or
16	(4) <u>\$[]</u> for an application for renewal of registration based upon an application for
17	on a renewal of registration or licensure submitted in another State state.
18	Comment
19 20 21 22 23 24	The amount of fees is left for each <u>State</u> to determine. Some <u>States</u> with existing acts have set fees in amounts sufficient to recover the cost of administration. If that approach is taken, a fee for registration or renewal based on registration or renewal of registration in another <u>State</u> should be less than when a complete evaluation and review of an application is necessary.
25 26 27 28 29	Athlete agent registration is the cornerstone of this act. High registration fees imposed by some State states with existing acts have probably contributed to seemingly small numbers of registrants under existing acts. The success of this act may be contingent on the implementation of a reasonable fee structure which does not motivate non-compliance.
30	SECTION 10. REQUIRED FORM OF CONTRACT.
31	(a) An agency contract must be in a record, signed or otherwise authenticated by the
32	parties.
33	(b) An agency contract must state or contain:

1	(1) the amount and method of calculating the consideration to be paid by the
2	student-athlete for services to be provided by the athlete agent under the contract and any other
3	consideration the athlete agent has received or will receive from any other source for entering
4	into the contract or for providing the services;
5	(2) the name of any person not listed in the application for registration or
6	renewal of registration who will be compensated because the student-athlete signed the agency
7	contract;
8	(3) a description of any expenses that the student-athlete agrees to reimburse;
9	(4) a description of the services to be provided to the student-athlete;
10	(5) the duration of the contract; and
11	(6) the date of execution.
12	(c) An agency contract must contain, in close proximity to the signature of the student-
13	athlete, a conspicuous notice in boldface type in capital letters stating:
14	WARNING TO STUDENT-ATHLETE
15	IF YOU SIGN THIS CONTRACT:
16	(1) YOU MAY LOSE YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE AS A STUDENT-
17	ATHLETE IN YOUR SPORT;
18	(2) IF YOU HAVE AN ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, WITHIN 72 HOURS AFTER
19	ENTERING INTO THIS CONTRACT, BOTH YOU AND YOUR ATHLETE AGENT
20	MUST NOTIFY YOUR ATHLETIC DIRECTOR; AND
21	(3) YOU MAY CANCEL THIS CONTRACT WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER
22	SIGNING IT. CANCELLATION OF THIS CONTRACT MAY NOT REINSTATE
23	YOUR ELIGIBILITY.

- (d) An agency contract that does not conform to this section is voidable by the student-athlete. If a student-athlete voids an agency contract, the student-athlete is not required to pay any consideration under the contract or to return any consideration received from the athlete agent to induce the student-athlete to enter into the contract.
- (e) The An athlete agent shall give a record of the a signed or otherwise authenticated agency contract to the student-athlete at the time of execution.

7 Comment

This section is intended to provide protection to the student-athlete by requiring a form of agency contract similar to those required in some consumer transactions. The Drafting Committee preferred to require that agency contracts be in traditional written form. However, the adoption of the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (see Section 19) eliminated that option.

A student-athlete who opts to void an agency contract under this section because it does not comply with the specified form is not required to return any consideration received to induce the signing of the agency contract because such inducement is prohibited conduct under Section 14.

The compensation referred to in subsection (b)(2) is compensation for services intended to induce the student-athlete to sign an agency contract. It does not include compensation individuals may receive because an athlete agent has been successful in securing an agency contract. For example, the compensation paid employees of an athlete agent who did not participate in inducing the student-athlete to sign an agency contract is not compensation under subsection (b)(2) even though their compensation may be made possible by the income resulting from the agency contract.

Subsection (b) contains references to a student-athlete in a time context in which the individual may be a former student-athlete. This is done for simplicity in drafting. It should be noted that violation of eligibility rules adopted by an educational institution or a national association is not automatic and does not occur until a determination has been made by the educational institution or the national association

SECTION 11. NOTICE TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

(a) Within Not later than 72 hours after entering into an agency contract or before the next scheduled athletic event in which the student-athlete may participate, whichever occurs first, the athlete agent shall give notice in a record of the existence of the contract to the athletic

- director of the educational institution at which the student-athlete is enrolled or the athlete agent has reasonable grounds to believe the student-athlete intends to enroll.
 - (b) Within Not later than 72 hours after entering into an agency contract or before the next athletic event in which the student-athlete may participate, whichever occurs first, the student-athlete shall inform the athletic director of the educational institution at which the student-athlete is enrolled that he or she has entered into an agency contract.

7 Comment

The purpose of this section is to prevent an educational institution from being sanctioned or penalized by allowing an ineligible player to participate in intercollegiate sports. The penalties may be severe. In addition to non-monetary penalties mentioned in the prefatory note, penalties may include loss of very substantial revenues received for participation in a football bowl game or a post-season basketball tournament.

SECTION 12. STUDENT-ATHLETE'S RIGHT TO CANCEL.

- (a) A student-athlete may cancel an agency contract by giving notice of the cancellation to the athlete agent in a record within not later than 14 days after the contract is signed.
- (b) A student-athlete may not waive the right to cancel an agency contract.
 - (c) If a student-athlete cancels an agency contract, the student-athlete is not required to pay any consideration under the contract or to return any consideration received from the athlete agent to induce the student-athlete to enter into the contract.

21 Comment

Because of the disparity in the sophistication of the parties, this section gives the student-athlete or former student-athlete the right to cancel an agency contract within 14 days even if the athlete agent has complied with the provisions of Section 10 regarding the form of the contract. The section provides relief to the student-athlete who has entered into an ill-considered agency contract, but does not provide any assurance that the student-athlete will be eligible to compete in a sport.

SECTION 13. REQUIRED RECORDS.

(a) An athlete agent shall retain the following records of the following for a period of

1	five years:
2	(1) the name and address of each individual represented by the athlete agent;
3	(2) any each agency contract entered into by the athlete agent; and
4	(3) any direct costs incurred by the athlete agent in the recruitment or
5	solicitation of a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract.
6	(b) Records required by subsection (a) to be retained are open to inspection by the
7	[Secretary of State] during normal business hours.
8	SECTION 14. PROHIBITED CONDUCT.
9	(a) An athlete agent, with the intent to induce a student-athlete to enter into an agency
10	contract, may not:
11	(1) give any materially false or misleading information or make a materially
12	false promise or representation;
13	(2) furnish anything of value to a student-athlete before the student-athlete
14	enters into the agency contract; or
15	(3) furnish anything of value to any an individual other than the student-athlete
16	or another registered athlete agent.
17	(b) An athlete agent may not intentionally:
18	(1) initiate contact with a student-athlete unless registered under this [Act act];
19	(2) refuse or fail to retain or permit inspection of the records required to be
20	retained by Section 13;
21	(3) fail to register when required by Section 4;
22	(4) provide materially false or misleading information in an application for
23	registration or renewal of registration;

1	(5) predate or postdate an agency contract; or
2	(6) fail to notify a student-athlete before the student-athlete signs or otherwise
3	authenticates an agency contract for a particular sport that the signing or authentication may
4	make the student-athlete ineligible to participate as a student-athlete in that sport.
5	(c) Before initiating contact with a student-athlete, an athlete agent shall notify in a
6	record the athletic director of the educational institution at which the student-athlete is enrolled
7	or the athlete agent has reasonable grounds to believe the student-athlete intends to enroll.
8	Comment
9 10	This section describes the conduct which gives rise to criminal penalties and civil liabilities under Sections 15 and 16.
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	Subsection (a)(3) prohibits an athlete agent from making any payment or providing anything of value to an individual who is in a position to influence a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract unless that individual is registered as an athlete agent. There have been numerous instances in which an athlete agent has made payment to or provided something of value to family members, friends or roommates of student-athletes to enlist their services in inducing a student-athlete to sign an agency contract usually without disclosure to the student-athlete.
20 21 22	If a student-athlete signs an agency contract in the form required by Section 10, there is no failure to notify under subsection (b)(6) because the agency contract includes the warning to student-athlete required by Section 10(c).
23 24	Subdivision (c) is a provision that has been added to the UAAA in several states.
25 26	Alternative A
27 28	SECTION 15. CRIMINAL PENALTIES. An athlete agent who violates Section 14
29	is guilty of a [misdemeanor] [felony] and, upon conviction, is punishable by [].
30	Alternative B
31 32	(a) An athlete agent or athlete agent's representative or employee who violates any
33	provision of this [act] is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not more
34	than fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), or imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year,

or by	both	that fine	and im	prisonn	1ent .

- (b) The court shall suspend for a period of not less than one year or, where when appropriate, revoke the privilege of any an individual convicted of a violation of this [act] to conduct the business of an athlete agent. In deciding whether to suspend or revoke the privilege to conduct the business of an athlete agent, the court shall consider any one or more of the relevant circumstances presented by any of the parties to the case, including the nature and seriousness of the misconduct, the number of violations, the persistence of the misconduct, the length of time over which the misconduct occurred, and the willfulness of the defendant's misconduct.
- (c) Upon On a conviction of a violation of this [act] relating to an athlete agent and a student-athlete or educational institution, or both, the court, in addition to the punishment imposed under subsection (a), shall order an the athlete agent or athlete agent's representative or employee to disgorge all consideration received in connection with the violation.
 - (d) Fines in an action under this section shall must be distributed as follows:
- (1) If the action is brought by the Attorney General, the fine shall <u>must</u> be paid into the state General Fund.
- (2) If the action is brought by a district attorney, two-thirds of the fine shall must be paid into the General Fund general fund of the county in which the action was brought and one-third shall must be paid into the state General Fund.
- (3) If the action is brought by a city attorney, two-thirds of the fine shall <u>must</u> be paid into the General Fund general fund of the city and one-third shall <u>must</u> be paid into the state General Fund.

End of Alternatives

Discussion of Alternatives

Alternative B is based on the California criminal provision. It creates an incentive to enforcement by requiring all or a portion of the fines to be distributed to the General Fund of the enforcing agency.

6 Comment

The extent of the criminal penalties which may be imposed for violation of the act are left to the States adopting the act because of a wide variation in the criminal penalties provided for by existing acts. Variations in the criminal penalties which may be imposed would not detract from the otherwise uniform and reciprocal provisions of the act. Some potential criminal penalty is necessary to discourage those individuals who are willing to engage in improper or illegal conduct because of the size of the monetary stakes in the contemporary professional sports world.

SECTION 16. CIVIL REMEDIES.

16 Alternative A

- (a) An educational institution has a right of action against an athlete agent or a former student-athlete for damages caused by a violation of this [Act act]. In an action under this section, the court may award to the prevailing party costs and reasonable attorney's fees.
- (b) Damages of an educational institution under subsection (a) include losses and expenses incurred because, as a result of the conduct of an athlete agent or former student-athlete, the educational institution was injured by a violation of this [Act act] or was penalized, disqualified, or suspended from participation in athletics by a national association for the promotion and regulation of athletics, by an athletic conference, or by reasonable self-imposed disciplinary action taken to mitigate sanctions likely to be imposed by such an organization association or conference.
- (c) A right of action under this section does not accrue until the educational institution discovers or by the exercise of reasonable diligence would have discovered the violation by the athlete agent or former student-athlete.

- (d) Any liability Liability of the athlete agent or the former student-athlete under this section is several and not joint.
- (e) This [Act act] does not restrict rights, remedies, or defenses of any person under law or equity.

5 Alternative B

- (a) An individual may bring an has a right of action for recovery of damages from against an athlete agent if the individual is adversely affected by an act in violation of this [act] by the athlete agent or a representative or employee of the agent. If the individual was a student-athlete at the time the act occurred, the student-athlete is presumed to be adversely affected by an act of an athlete agent or a representative or employee of the agent if, because of the act, the student-athlete is:
- (1) suspended or disqualified from participation in one or more interscholastic or intercollegiate sports events by or pursuant to the rules of a state or national federation or association for the promotion and regulation of interscholastic or intercollegiate sports or;
 - (2) suffers financial damage; or
- 16 (3) suffers both suspension or disqualification and financial damage.
 - (b) An elementary or secondary school, college, university, or other educational institution or a league, conference, association, or federation of educational institutions may bring an has a right of action for recovery of damages from against an athlete agent if the institution or any member of the league, conference, association, or federation of which the institution is a member is adversely affected by an act in violation of this [act] by the athlete agent or a representative or employee of the agent. An institution is presumed to be adversely affected by an act of an athlete agent or a representative or employee of the agent if, because of

1 the act, because of the act, the educational institution or an individual who was a student-athlete 2 at the time of the act and admitted to or enrolled in the institution is: 3 (1) suspended or disqualified from participation in one or more interscholastic or 4 intercollegiate sports events by or pursuant to the rules of a state or national federation or 5 association for the promotion and regulation of interscholastic or intercollegiate sports or; 6 (2) suffers financial damage; or 7 (3) suffers both suspension or disqualification and financial damage. 8 (c) A plaintiff that prevails in an action brought under this section may recover actual 9 damages or \$[\\$50,000], whichever is greater, punitive damages, court costs, and reasonable 10 attorney's fees. An athlete agent found liable under this section shall forfeit any right or 11 repayment for anything of benefit or value provided to a student-athlete and shall refund any 12 consideration paid to the agent by or on behalf of the student-athlete. 13 **End of Alternatives** 14 15 **Discussion of Alternatives** 16 Alternative B is based on Section 18897.8 of the California Business and Professions Code. The California Athlete Agents Act includes individuals who represent professional 17 athletes on an ongoing basis, not just the relationship between student-athletes and athlete 18 agents. Accordingly, one of the revisions was to delete a cause of action for professional 19 20 athletes. A second revision was to limit the cause of action to individuals who were student-21 athletes at the time the act of the athlete agent being litigated occurred since a student-athlete 22 who accepts consideration from an athlete agent or signs and agency contract is no longer a student-athlete, at least in the sport involved. The section creates a presumption that a student-23 athlete is adversely affected if the student-athlete is suspended or disqualified from 24 25 participating in one or more interscholastic or intercollegiate sport events. This presumption would not arise in the circumstance where a student-athlete was stripped of some honor 26 27 received as a student-athlete because of the act of an athlete agent. 28 29 The California law also gives a cause of action to an educational institution that is 30 adversely affected by an act of an athlete agent and creates a presumption an institution is adversely affected if it or a student-athlete admitted to or enrolled in the institution is 31

32

suspended or disqualified.

1 Finally, the California law gives a cause of action to a "league, conference, association," 2 or federation" of which an adversely affected institution is a member but does not create any 3 presumption of adversely affected. It may be that the language of the California law is so broad 4 that it may give a cause of action to the NCAA for the actions of an athlete agent that resulted 5 in the NCAA imposing sanctions on one of its members. 6 7 Comment 8 It is assumed that educational institutions will be very reluctant to bring an action 9 against a former student-athlete. Public opinion and the desire to be successful in future recruiting of athletes should cause educational institutions to carefully consider whether to 10 exercise the right established by subsection (a) in most situations. There are, however, known 11 12 instances of extremely egregious conduct by student-athletes who received lucrative 13 professional contracts which caused serious damage to educational institutions. Subsection (a) 14 keeps open the possibility of a civil action against those individuals. 15 16 Section 16 does not specifically authorize an action by a student-athlete against an 17 athlete agent because the student-athlete can bring an action against an athlete agent under 18 existing law. Subsection (e) preserves the rights of the student-athlete under existing law. 19 20 **SECTION 17. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY.** The [Secretary of State] may 21 assess a civil penalty against an athlete agent or student-athlete not to exceed \$[\$25,000] for a 22 violation of this [Act act]. 23 Comment 24 The procedure for imposing an administrative penalty and complying with due process 25 requirements are left to the adopting State's state's administrative procedures law. 26 27 Student-athletes are added to those against whom the [Secretary of State] may impose a 28 civil penalty. 29 30 SECTION 18. UNIFORMITY OF APPLICATION AND CONSTRUCTION. In applying and construing this Uniform Act uniform act, consideration must be given to the need 31 32 to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among States states that 33 enact it. 34 SECTION 19. ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL 35 **COMMERCE ACT.** The provisions of this [Act act] governing the legal effect, validity, or

enforceability of electronic records or signatures, and of contracts formed or performed with

1	the use of such records of signatures comorni to the requirements of section 102 of the
2	Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, Pub. L. No. 106-229, 114 Stat.
3	464 (2000), and supersede, modify, and limit the Electronic Signatures in Global and National
4	Commerce Act.
5	RELATION TO ELECTONIC SIGNATURES IN GLOBAL AND NATIONAL
6	COMMERCE ACT. This [act] modifies, limits, or supersedes the Electronic Signatures in
7	Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001 et seq., but does not modify, limit,
8	or supersede Section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001(c), or authorize electronic
9	delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103 (b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. Section
10	<u>7003(b).</u>
11	Comment
12 13 14 15 16 17	The Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act (ESGNCA) contains provisions governing the legal effect, validity, or enforceability of electronic records and electronic signatures. The act recognizes contracts which have been formed with the use of electronic records or electronic signatures even though the Drafting Committee recommends that agency contracts be in the traditional written form.
18	[SECTION 20. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this [Act act] or its application
19	to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
20	applications of this [Act act] which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
21	application, and to this end the provisions of this [Act act] are severable.]
22 23 24	Legislative Note: Include this section only if this state lacks a general severability statute or a decision by the highest court of this state stating a general rule of severability.
25	SECTION 21. REPEALS; CONFORMING AMENDMENTS. The following acts
26	and parts of acts are hereby repealed:
27	<u>(a)</u>
28	<u>(b)</u>

- 1 <u>(c)</u>
- **SECTION 22. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This [Act act] takes effect....