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## WHY YOUR STATE SHOULD ADOPT THE REVISED UNIFORM ATHLETE AGENTS ACT (2015) (LAST AMENDED 2019)

The Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act (RUAAA) (Last Amended in 2019) modernizes the Uniform Athlete Agents Act (UAAA) for the ever-evolving sports commercial marketplace and the increasing improper activity between athlete agents and student athletes. An athlete agent's recruitment of a student athlete while they are still enrolled in an academic institution may cause substantial eligibility or other problems for both the student athlete and the academic institution. The RUAAA protects the interests of student athletes, academic institutions, and athlete agents by regulating the activities of athlete agents. The revised act updates the UAAA in the following ways:

- Expands the definition of "athlete agent" to include individuals who:
  - (1) for compensation procure or attempt to procure employment for a student athlete.
  - (2) for compensation or in the anticipation of compensation advise a student athlete on finance and business affairs of the athlete.
  - (3) in anticipation of representing the athlete give something of value to the athlete or another person.

Licensed, registered, or certified professionals acting within the scope of their license, registration, or certification are excluded unless they are also otherwise acting as an athlete agent or receive consideration for providing the services on a different basis than from an individual who is not a student athlete.

- **Provides reciprocal and interstate compact registration** by requiring a mandatory reciprocal registration requirement between states, or alternatively, provides for registration through a multistate agency created by an interstate compact.
- **Provides, like the UAAA, a central location** where an athlete agent's credentials can be reviewed by the student athlete and the educational institution, which aids a student athlete in selecting a qualified athlete agent.
- Enhances agency contract requirements by now requiring an agency contract to contain a statement that the athlete is registered in the state where the contract is signed and list any other state in which the athlete agent is registered; as well as a separate record signed by the student athlete acknowledging that signing the contract may result in loss of eligibility to participate in the athlete's sport.

- Adds notification requirements mandating an athlete agent to notify the educational institution where a student athlete is enrolled before contacting a student athlete; and when a preexisting relationship between themselves and the student athlete exists, if the relationship was motivated by the intention to recruit the student athlete to enter an agency contract or the agent actually recruited the student athlete to enter a contract and the athlete agent knew or should have known of the enrollment.
- **Provides remedies for student athletes** by giving student athletes the right to sue an athlete agent for damages caused by violation of the act.
- Accommodates changes to NCAA bylaws made in 2018 that affect high school and college student athletes playing basketball and anticipates future changes made by associations of educational institutions governing interscholastic or intercollegiate sports to rules or bylaws governing student athletes.

For more information on RUAAA, please contact ULC Legislative Counsel Libby Snyder at (312) 450-6619 or <a href="mailto:lsnyder@uniformlaws.org">lsnyder@uniformlaws.org</a>.