

why after listening to Senator Chambers. But I guess the question that I'm asking is, what are we really interested in? The rights of the individual, first and foremost. But also I want to point out again there is nothing that compels anyone to play football, nothing compels you to play basketball. Someone has to make the rules, I guess. If you don't like the rules, you don't play in the ball park. We know that athletes are shipped around the country in a manner which is almost abhorrent. We understand that. I guess that's the way the system is going to work. But you can't have a system that works that way and then you can't have, as Senator Chambers points out, corporate entities that want to dump huge sums of money into the various entities to further enhance themselves, the programs, very rarely the athlete, without having some kind of an oversight. And to the extent that that oversight exists, I think it does some good. They may be high-handed from time to time. Some of the alleged abuses that have taken place, which the NCAA has objected to, certainly have to be considered high-handed also and I think we have to recognize that. I think that there comes a time when we ought to put the athletic programs back in the context that they were supposed to be when they started and that was something for the kids to have fun with once in a while but it is far be it from that anymore. I don't know how a basketball player can possibly participate in an academic program. They're flying all over the country two and three times a week and someone, sure as the dickens, needs to be exercising some oversight in that regard. Maybe the NCAA is wrong. Maybe they do things wrong. Maybe they are high-handed. Maybe they're arrogant, I'm not sure. I'm the least probably qualified person on this floor to make that decision and I freely admit that. But I'm going to ask you if you're satisfied yourself with what has happened in the collegiate sports in the last few years? Do you have a better solution? Does the advancement of this bill make it less obnoxious or does it make it better? Does it protect the rights of the player? Does it guarantee him any more of an education than he gets now? I think that we all know that we're not satisfied with what has happened in that area. And I guess I'm just curious because I've watched this thing develop over the years. I've watched the athletic program over the years become the tail that wags the dog and I'm not at this time ready to, I guess, slap the wrists of the only entity that I know of that exercises any control over those programs. To the extent that you intimidate that entity, I think you might give a green light to further abuses within the program. I think it deserves to be looked at,