

Executive Order 2024-08D

Fairness in Name, Image, and Likeness Compensation for Ohio Student-Athletes

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio has the best postsecondary educational institutions and intercollegiate student-athletes in the country; and

WHEREAS, laws and rules regarding the use and compensation of intercollegiate studentathletes' name, image, and likeness ("NIL") are ever changing and heavily litigated; and

WHEREAS, the National Collegiate Athletic Association (the "NCAA") and several athletic conferences have entered into a proposed settlement agreement ("Settlement") in *In re College Athlete NIL Litigation*, No. 4:20-cv-03919-CW (N.D. Cal.) which, if given full approval, will reshape the landscape of college athletics by allowing institutions of higher education to provide direct compensation to their student-athletes for the use of such student-athletes NIL; and

WHEREAS, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California has given preliminary, but not yet final, approval to the Settlement; and

WHEREAS, while the Settlement is pending, other states have taken actions that authorize their postsecondary educational institutions to directly compensate their student-athletes for NIL immediately; and

WHEREAS, to ensure a fair and level playing field for Ohio's postsecondary educational institutions and their student-athletes while the Settlement is pending, it is necessary that the State of Ohio also take action that allows its postsecondary educational institutions (that are covered by the Settlement) to directly compensate their student-athletes for NIL immediately.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mike DeWine, Governor of the State of Ohio, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution, the laws of this State, and to the extent allowed by law, do hereby order and direct that any postsecondary educational institution in the State of Ohio (that is covered by the Settlement) may offer compensation or compensate an intercollegiate student-athlete for the use of such student-athlete's NIL; provided, however, that no postsecondary educational institution shall use funds allocated by the State of Ohio for such compensation.

I signed this Executive Order on November 18, 2024, in Columbus, Ohio and it will expire upon the Settlement coming into full operational effect unless this executive order is modified or rescinded prior to that time.

Mike DeWine, Governor

ATTEST:

Frank LaRose, Secretary of State

