

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 12, 2024

Mr. Rich Clark
Executive Director
College Football Playoff
545 E John Carpenter Frwy, Suite 1025
Irving, TX 75062

Mr. Nick Carparelli
Executive Director
Bowl Season
100 Montana Street
San Antonio, TX 78203

Dear Mr. Clark and Mr. Carparelli:

The Army vs. Navy Football Game – affectionately known as “America’s Game” – has long been recognized as one of the greatest events in all of college sports. The game is so important that it continued to be played even during World War II. Citizens throughout the world look forward to the game’s telecast, which engages the interest of millions of Americans, including the hundreds of thousands of current and former military personnel who watch it.

The game is always played in a sold out NFL venue and brings patriotism and pageantry to the fans in the stadium and to the people of the host city. To reflect the immeasurable esteem that this event has garnered for decades, it has been played for many years on a Saturday reserved specifically for the Army vs. Navy Game without any competing college football events.

As you know, college commissioners voted unanimously to schedule the twelve-team College Football Playoff (CFP) around the Army vs. Navy Football Game. The decision demonstrated a significant degree of respect extended by the most prominent leaders in college football, which we strongly commend. Nevertheless, the expanded CFP will cause other bowl games—for the first time in recent history—to be played on the same day as the Army vs. Navy Game.

We write out of concern that the additional games detract from the focus on our Armed Forces that the nationally televised Army vs. Navy Game provided with a unique day set aside for it. Young Americans often cite the pregame events as igniting their interest in serving in uniform. The airtime of those pregame events are now in jeopardy with a preceding televised college football game. We feel there is no other block of time in television programming that rekindles our nation's patriotism, unity, and confidence in the military and promotes a greater sense of appreciation than this incredible game day production.

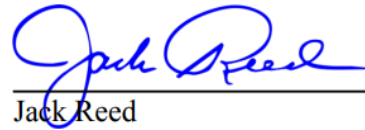
On behalf of both Army and Navy, all those who are serving or have served our country and the citizens whom we represent, we respectfully request you set aside the second Saturday in December in future seasons solely for the Army vs. Navy Game to preserve this time-honored tradition.

We would like to thank you in advance for recognizing the importance of safeguarding the exclusivity of the Army vs. Navy Game and are hopeful we can work together to protect America's Game.

Sincerely,



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



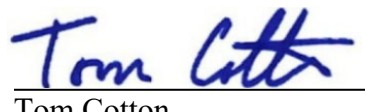
Joni Ernst
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



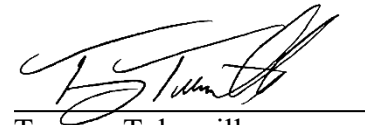
Joe Manchin III
United States Senator



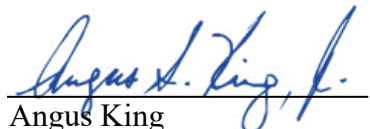
Tom Cotton
United States Senator



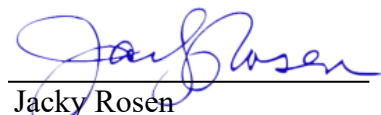
Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator



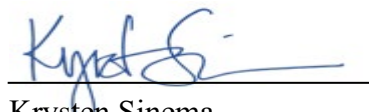
Tommy Tuberville
United States Senator



Angus King
United States Senator



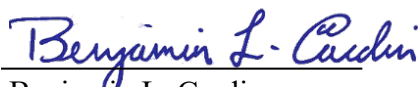
Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



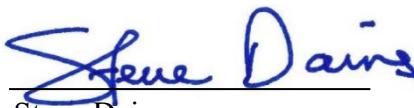
Krysten Sinema
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Steve Daines
United States Senator

Bill Cassidy, M.D.

Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator

Mark Kelly

Mark Kelly
United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

Cynthia M. Lummis

Cynthia M. Lummis
United States Senator

Peter Welch

Peter Welch
United States Senator

Rick Scott

Rick Scott
United States Senator

Richard Blumenthal

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

Deb Fischer

Deb Fischer
United States Senator

David A. McCormick

David McCormick
United States Senator-elect

Jeanne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

Cindy Hyde-Smith

Cindy Hyde-Smith
United States Senator

Kevin Cramer

Kevin Cramer
United States Senator

Pete Ricketts

Pete Ricketts
United States Senator

Chris Coons

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator

Maggie Hassan

Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

James E. Risch

James E. Risch
United States Senator

John Boozman

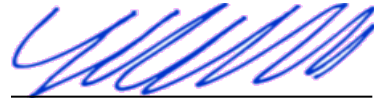
John Boozman
United States Senator

Timothy P. Sheehy

Timothy P. Sheehy
United States Senator-elect



Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



Mike Garcia
Member of Congress



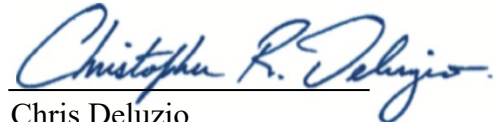
Pat Ryan
Member of Congress



Jake Ellzey
Member of Congress



James Moylan
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



Nick LaLota
Member of Congress



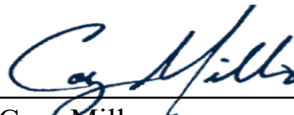
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



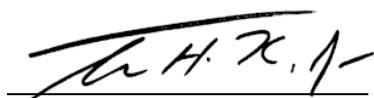
Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



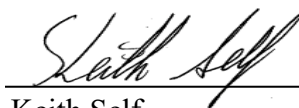
Cory Mills
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress



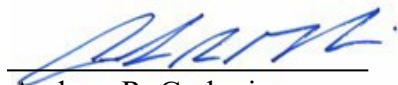
Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Keith Self
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress



C. A. Dutch Ruppberger
Member of Congress



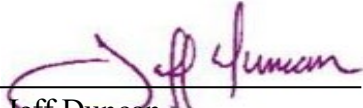
Mike Lawler
Member of Congress



Rich McCormick
Member of Congress



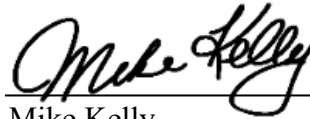
Jen Kiggans
Member of Congress



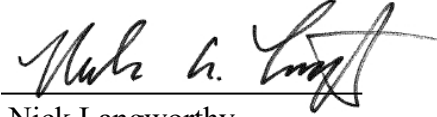
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress



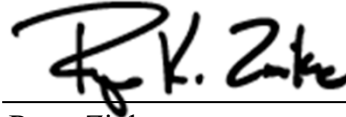
Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Nick Langworthy
Member of Congress



Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress

CC:
The Honorable Charlie Baker
President, National Collegiate Athletic Association
P.O. Box 7110
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222

Dr. Mark Keenum
President, Mississippi State University
Chair of the CFP Board of Managers
P.O. Box 6018
Mississippi State, MS 39762