

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7330

To prohibit, as an unfair and deceptive act or practice, the promotion, marketing, and advertising of any post-season NCAA Division I football game as a national championship game unless such game is the culmination of a fair and equitable playoff system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2008

Mr. BARTON of Texas (for himself, Mr. RUSH, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. McCAUL of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit, as an unfair and deceptive act or practice, the promotion, marketing, and advertising of any post-season NCAA Division I football game as a national championship game unless such game is the culmination of a fair and equitable playoff system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “College Football Play-
5 off Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) college football games, including post-season
2 football games, depend upon competition between
3 college and university teams traveling in interstate
4 commerce;

5 (2) the competitions involve and affect inter-
6 state commerce and are therefore within Congress's
7 constitutional authority to regulate;

8 (3) the total economic impact in the host cities
9 from the 5 Bowl Championship Series (BCS) games
10 in January 2008 was estimated at more than \$1.2
11 billion;

12 (4) collegiate athletic conferences whose teams
13 participate in each BCS bowl game share \$17.5 mil-
14 lion in revenue;

15 (5) the BCS system recognizes the important
16 economic impact to a city hosting the BCS cham-
17 pionship game and therefore rotates it among cities;
18 and

19 (6) the colleges and universities whose teams
20 participate in the post-season football bowls experi-
21 ence significant financial windfall including in-
22 creased applications for enrollment, recruiting ad-
23 vantages, increased alumni donations, and increased
24 corporate sponsorship that provides a competitive
25 advantage over universities whose teams are ineli-

1 an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under sec-
2 tion 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act
3 (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)). The Federal Trade Commission
4 shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same
5 means, and with the same jurisdiction as though all appli-
6 cable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commis-
7 sion Act were incorporated into and made a part of this
8 Act.

9 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Federal Trade Commission
10 may promulgate regulations or issue interpretative guide-
11 lines as necessary to implement and carry out this Act.

12 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

13 The prohibition in section 3 shall apply to any post-
14 season NCAA Division I FBS football game that occurs
15 after January 31, 2011.

○