

2025 NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD



**THE HONORABLE ROBERT C. SCOTT, United States
Representative 3rd District of Virginia and THE HONORABLE
SUZANNE BONAMICI, United States Representative 1st
District of Oregon**

Honoring elected public officials responsible for advancing public policy that would significantly improve the conduct of intercollegiate athletic programs, enhance the rights of college athletes, or otherwise protect their education, health, and safety.

In recognition of U.S. Representatives Robert C. Scott and Suzanne Bonamici, both ranking members of the 2024 House Committee on Education and the Workforce, for requesting that the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) conduct an audit of the Department of Education Office for Civil Rights' (DOE-OCR) Title IX athletics enforcement activities. The April 2024 GAO report, "[College Athletics: Education Should Improve Its Title IX Enforcement Efforts](#)," the only government audit since the 1975 issuance of the OCR Title IX athletics regulations, found that:

- 93 percent of all intercollegiate athletic programs were not offering athletics opportunities to females proportional to their percentage in the full-time undergraduate student body;
- the overall athletic participation rate for females was 14 percentage points lower than their enrollment during the 2021-2022 academic year;
- at two-thirds of all colleges with athletic programs, the rate of females' athletics participation was at least 10 percent lower than their undergraduate female enrollment; and
- 40 percent of the colleges with these large enrollment differences had not added a new female sport over the last 14 years or had dropped one or more female sports during that period.