

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-3641

Minority (202) 225-2927

October 24, 2025

Mr. Adam Silver
Commissioner
National Basketball Association
645 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear Commissioner Silver:

Pursuant to Rules X and XI of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Committee on Energy and Commerce (Committee) is examining the allegations of illegal gambling and sports rigging that resulted in “tens of millions of dollars in fraud and theft and robbery,” and the arrests of current and former National Basketball Association (NBA) players and coaches.¹ These allegations raise serious concerns about sports betting and the integrity of sport in the NBA, which harms fans and legal sports bettors. The Committee has jurisdiction over interstate commerce, consumer protection, and sports. Of note, the Committee has a long-standing role in oversight of the integrity and fairness of sport, including but not limited to investigations of steroid use in Major League Baseball,² anti-doping measures in the Olympic Games,³ and sexual abuse of Olympic athletes.⁴

The recent allegations, which include current and former NBA players and coaches and members of organized criminal enterprises, have resulted in two federal indictments.⁵ The first

¹ Alanna Durkin, et al., *Watch: Heat’s Rozier and Trail Blazers’ Billups among dozens charged in sports betting, Mafia-backed poker schemes*, PBS NEWS (Oct. 23, 2025), <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/watch-live-fbi-director-patel-holds-news-briefing-on-investigation-into-nba-and-gambling>.

² *Steroids in Sports: Cheating the System and Gambling Your Health: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce, Subcomm. on Commerce, Trade, and Consumer Protection and Subcomm. on Health*, 109th Cong. (Mar. 10, 2005).

³ *Ways to Improve and Strengthen the International Anti-Doping System: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce, Subcomm. on Oversight and Investigations*, 115th Cong. (Feb. 28, 2017); *Examining Anti-Doping Measures in Advance of the 2024 Olympics: Hearing Before the H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce, Subcomm. on Oversight and Investigations*, 118th Cong. (Jun. 25, 2024).

⁴ Staff Report, H. Comm. on Energy and Commerce, *Nassar and Beyond: A Review of the Olympic Community’s Efforts to Protect Athletes from Sexual Abuse*, 115th Cong. (Dec. 20, 2018), <https://d1dth6e84htgma.cloudfront.net/legacy/uploads/2018/12/EC-USOC-Report-12.20.18-Final-REV.pdf>.

⁵ Alanna Durkin et al., *Watch: Heat’s Rozier and Trail Blazers’ Billups among dozens charged in sports betting, Mafia-backed poker schemes*, PBS NEWS (Oct. 23, 2025), <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/watch-live-fbi-director-patel-holds-news-briefing-on-investigation-into-nba-and-gambling>.

indictment relates to the alleged role of a current NBA coach in rigged poker games, while the second indictment charges six defendants for their alleged role in a scheme involving illegal betting using confidential information about NBA athletes and teams.⁶ The federal indictment's allegations of illegal betting span incidents of fraudulent wagering from December 2022 to March 2024 and involve defendants and co-conspirators residing across the United States.⁷

According to the unsealed indictment, current and former NBA players and coaches allegedly used insider information to place or profit from bets on NBA games.⁸ In 2023, it is alleged that Miami Heat player Terry Rozier left a game early to facilitate a co-conspirator's winning bet, which produced hundreds of thousands of dollars in winnings to be split with Mr. Rozier.⁹ Mr. Rozier allegedly faked an injury and took himself out of the game so that a friend could bet on his "under" statistics.¹⁰ Another co-conspirator, former NBA player Damon Jones, is alleged to have gained access to non-public information on NBA players and teams which he then sold to professional gamblers.¹¹ Other unnamed co-conspirators are alleged to have passed along insider information such as who would not be playing in an upcoming game.¹²

Illegal sports betting based on non-public information in the NBA is not a new problem. In 2007, former NBA referee Tim Donaghy pleaded guilty to federal charges for using insider information to bet on games he officiated.¹³ Last year, Toronto Raptors player Jontay Porter was banned from the NBA for life after pleading guilty to wire fraud conspiracy due to his involvement in a sports betting scandal.¹⁴ Mr. Porter prematurely exited games he was scheduled to play so that conspirators could place winning bets.¹⁵ Seemingly in response to Mr. Porter's indictment, the NBA revised its policy on cell phone use during games, prohibiting any player use of phones or similar devices from tipoff until the conclusion of the game.¹⁶

After the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992 in *Murphy v. NCAA*, state-sanctioned sports betting has been legal and is regulated by states.¹⁷ Currently, 39 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have legal

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *United States v. Earnest*, No. 25-CR-323 (E.D.N.Y. 2025) (Indictment) at 7, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/sports/2025/10/23/pdf-nba-indictment-billups-rozier/>.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* at 9.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 8.

¹¹ *Id.* at 16.

¹² *Id.* at 15.

¹³ Scott Eden, *From the archives: How former ref Tim Donaghy conspired to fix NBA games*, ESPN (July 9, 2020), https://www.espn.com/nba/story/_/id/25980368/how-former-ref-tim-donaghy-conspired-fix-nba-games.

¹⁴ Sam Quinn, *Ex-Raptors player Jontay Porter texted co-conspirator in gambling scheme during a game, court documents say*, CBS SPORTS (Jan. 13, 2025), <https://www.cbssports.com/nba/news/ex-raptors-player-jontay-porter-texted-co-conspirator-in-gambling-scheme-during-a-game-court-documents-say/>.

¹⁵ *Supra* n. 7 at 18.

¹⁶ Sam Quinn, *Ex-Raptors player Jontay Porter texted co-conspirator in gambling scheme during a game, court documents say*, CBS SPORTS (Jan. 13, 2025), <https://www.cbssports.com/nba/news/ex-raptors-player-jontay-porter-texted-co-conspirator-in-gambling-scheme-during-a-game-court-documents-say/>.

¹⁷ *Murphy v. National Collegiate Athletic Association*, 584 U.S. 453 (2018).

betting markets.¹⁸ On October 21, 2025, during an appearance on “The Pat McAfee Show,” you stated, “I think, probably, there should be more regulation,” on sports betting.¹⁹ During this interview, you also stated that the NBA asked sportsbook partners to cease offering proposition (prop) bets on players on two-way contracts to underperform in games.²⁰ You posited that players on “two-way” contracts, that play in both the NBA as well as its developmental G league, may be more prone to manipulation to alter a game outcome.²¹

To assist the Committee in its oversight, we request a briefing by no later than October 31, 2025, that addresses the following:

1. Details about the fraudulent, illegal, and alleged betting practices in connection with NBA players, coaches, and officials, including the actions of NBA players and coaches identified in the recent indictment; as well as prior instances, some of which are identified above.
2. Actions the NBA intends to take to limit the disclosure of nonpublic information for illegal purposes.
3. Whether the NBA’s Code of Conduct for players and coaches²² effectively prohibits illegal activity, including the disclosure of non-public information for the purposes of illegal betting schemes.
4. An explanation of the gaps, if any, in existing regulations that allow illegal betting schemes to occur.
5. Whether and how the NBA is reevaluating the terms of its partnerships with sports betting companies.

¹⁸ David Purdum & Doug Greenberg, *NBA commish Adam Silver calls for more gambling regulation*, ESPN (Oct. 21, 2025), https://www.espn.com/nba/story/_/id/46675288/nba-commish-adam-silver-calls-more-gambling-regulation.

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ *Id.*

²² National Basketball Association-National Basketball Players Association Collective Bargaining Agreement (effective July 1, 2023), <https://imgix.cosmicjs.com/25da5eb0-15eb-11ee-b5b3-fbd321202bdf-Final-2023-NBA-Collective-Bargaining-Agreement-6-28-23.pdf>.

Letter to Commissioner Adam Silver

October 24, 2025

Page 4 of 4

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any follow-up questions, please contact Committee Majority Staff at (202) 225-3641 and the Minority staff at (202) 225-2927.

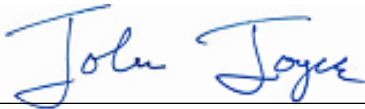
Sincerely,



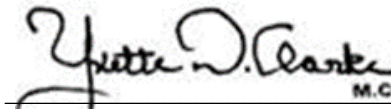
Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce



Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce



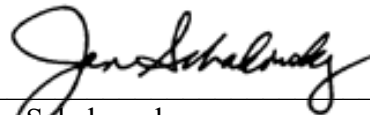
John Joyce, M.D.
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight
Investigations



Yvette Clarke
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Oversight and
Investigations



Gus Bilirakis
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Manufacturing, and Trade



Jan Schakowsky
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Manufacturing, and Trade