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December 19, 2018

The Honorable Orrin Hatch  
President Pro Tempore  
United States Senate  
104 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
The Capitol, S-221  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Hatch and Leader Schumer:

We are writing to express the full support of the United States Tennis Association (USTA) for the proposed *Sports Wagering Market Integrity Act*. Since the Supreme Court struck down the *Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act* (Public law 102-559; 106 Stat. 4227) on May 14<sup>th</sup> of this year, the USTA, like most other sport organizations, has struggled with the concept of compliance and cooperation with potentially 50 separate sets of regulations and regulators. We therefore enthusiastically add our voice to the coalition of sport organizations that seek a national framework for sport wagering, while recognizing the important role states have in regulating gambling, protecting consumers, and upholding the integrity of sports.

The USTA is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) as the national governing body for the sport of tennis and the leader in promoting and developing the sport's growth on every level in the United States. The USTA owns and operates the US Open Tennis Championships (US Open) - one of the world's highest-attended annual sporting events, with the 2018 US Open drawing almost 800,000 fans onsite and a broadcast audience of 43.8 million. Additionally, the USTA provides operational and financial support for approximately 75 professional-level tournaments within the United States that are staged under sanctions obtained by the USTA.

Internationally, tennis is one the most-wagered on sports. As such, the USTA, along with the world tennis community, has fought diligently against betting-related corruption and to maintain the integrity of the sport, both domestically and abroad, by, among other things, creating a Tennis Integrity Unit, adopting a sport-wide Tennis Anti-Corruption Program and retaining experts to do a thorough review of our sport and make additional recommendations aimed to further promote the integrity of the game.

Based on our experience with and understanding of sports wagering abroad, the USTA supports a federal, holistic approach to regulating sports wagers, and uniform cooperation and regulation with state gaming regulators and betting operators, as well as robust education and regulations for athletes and others affiliated with these sporting events.

The proposed federal sports wagering bill, if enacted, would significantly aid sports organizations in maintaining the integrity of sport. We applaud the introduction of this bill and stand ready to work with you to advance this important legislation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Best regards,



Gordon A. Smith  
Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director