

PRESS RELEASE

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ILN member Howard Swibel introduces Illinois Governor at ULC annual meeting as Quinn signs sports agent bill into law



Chicago, IL, July 20, 2010 –

Attorney Howard Swibel, a partner in the ILN member law firm of Arnstein & Lehr LLP in Chicago and Illinois Commissioner to the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, recently

welcomed Illinois Governor Pat Quinn to the Uniform Law Commission's annual meeting at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago on Wednesday to sign into law a measure requiring sports agents who seek to represent student athletes to register with the state.

Under the new law, which goes into effect on January 1, sports agents will be required to register with and be licensed by the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation. Agents cannot register if they are convicted of a felony and schools will have to be notified within 72 hours, or before the start of the next competition, once a student enters a contract with an agent. The legislation also would require agents to

notify student athletes that signing a contract might endanger their eligibility to compete. Athletes could cancel contracts within 14 days. The new law, the Uniform Athlete Agents Act, will also create a registry that student and schools can check to ensure they are dealing with a reputable agent.

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"This bill was created to protect athletes preyed upon by those who don't have their best interests at heart," said Governor Quinn.

The Uniform Law Commission is a government agency formed by all 50 states dedicated to bringing uniformity to state laws across the nation. This was the first time in the ULC's 117 year history that one of the laws it drafted was signed into law by a governor at the organization's annual meeting.

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