

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

September 20, 2023

Roger Goodell
Commissioner
National Football League
345 Park Avenue, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10154

Dear Commissioner Goodell:

Wisconsinites love the Green Bay Packers, and when we can't be at Lambeau Field, we watch them play on TV. Due to scheduling conflicts and local television markets that mismatch our State's border, however, nearly half of a million Wisconsin residents can receive the wrong broadcast when the Packers play at the same time as a neighboring football franchise. I urge the NFL to take additional care in its scheduling to avoid these conflicts and ensure every Wisconsinite can watch regular Packers broadcasts.

More than 415,000 Wisconsinites live in thirteen counties that are assigned either to the Duluth-Superior media market, Twin Cities media market, or the Marquette, Michigan media market. As a result, when the NFL schedules Packers games at the same time as the Minnesota Vikings or the Detroit Lions and on the same network, these residents may miss out on the Packers game. This season, the NFL's schedule includes at least four instances in which the Packers are scheduled to play at the same time and on the same network as these teams. These conflicts disappoint fans and are avoidable. I know that Green Bay Packers fans are the most loyal in the nation. The NFL should reward that loyalty with better scheduling practices to ensure they can watch the Packers, not the Vikings or Lions.

My Go Pack Go Act would solve this problem once and for all by requiring cable and satellite providers to give their Wisconsin subscribers access to programming from the broadcast television stations in a Wisconsin media market, and I will continue to fight for its passage. Until then, the NFL should take better care of Green Bay Packers fans by avoiding these conflicts in the first place. On behalf of the thousands of Packers fans in these affected counties, thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator