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H.B. 178*
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Civil Justice

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Brent and Callender

Paul Luzzi, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Prohibits public K-12 schools and public and private preschools from discriminating against an individual with respect to any program or activity because of traits associated with an individual's race, including hair texture and protective hair styles, such as braids, locks, and twists.
- Allows an individual alleging a public school or public or private preschool has discriminated against the individual based on traits associated with the individual's race to sue in any court having jurisdiction.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act

The bill, titled the "Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act,"¹ prohibits public K-12 schools and all public and private preschools from discriminating against any individual with respect to any program or activity because of traits associated with the individual's race. Under the bill, "race" includes traits associated with an individual's race, including hair texture and protective hair styles, such as braids, locks, and twists.

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House Civil Justice Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ Section 6.

An individual alleging a public school or public or private preschool discriminated against the individual in violation of the bill may sue in any court of competent jurisdiction.²

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-22-23
Reported, H. Civil Justice	---

ANHB0178RH-135/ks

² R.C. 3319.48, by reference to R.C. Chapter 3314, 3326, and 3328, and R.C. 2950.034, not in the bill, with conforming changes in R.C. 3314.03, 3326.11, and 3328.24.