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H.B. 178
135th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the House

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Brent and Callender

Mariah M. Maldovan, Attorney

SUMMARY

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

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

¹ Section 6.

² R.C. 3319.48, by reference to R.C. Chapters 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.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-22-23
Reported, H. Civil Justice	06-10-24
Passed House (83-8)	06-12-24
