

HB24-1323: School Graduation Attire

APPROVED by Governor and took effect on June 5, 2024.

Overview

The act allows a preschool, public school, or public college or university student to wear objects of cultural or religious significance at a graduation ceremony. Cultural is defined as: "a recognized practice or traditions of people from protected classes such as: race, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, and religion."

The act prohibits a preschool, public school, or public college or university from restricting what a student may wear under the student's required graduation attire as long as the adornment complies with the preschool's, public school's, or public college's or university's dress code policy.

Schools are still allowed to prevent students from wearing an adornment that is likely to disrupt or interfere with a graduation ceremony.

School Impact

The act allows a public school to prohibit a student from wearing or displaying an adornment that is likely to cause substantial disruption of, or material interference with, a graduation ceremony, but the prohibition must be the least restrictive means necessary and must be based on evidence of disruption.

Prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year, public schools are required to develop and adopt a policy that aligns with the requirements of the act.

CPR Article

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Sponsors: Sen. Rhonda Fields (D), Rep. Leslie Velasco (D), Rep. Tim Hernandez (D)