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Sectional Analysis

Senate Bill 174

“An act relating to dress codes and natural hairstyles.”

Section 1: Adds a new section (.135. Dress code; natural hairstyles) to AS 14.03 (Title 14. Education, Libraries, and Museums, 03. Public Schools Generally)

This section disallows a school district from adopting a school dress code that prohibits a student from wearing a hairstyle that is commonly or historically associated with race, wearing a natural hairstyle regardless of the student’s hair texture or type, or that requires a student to permanently or semi-permanently alter their natural hair.

This bill makes an exception to allow school districts to restrict hairstyles in any way necessary to comply with health or safety laws.

Section 2: Adds a new section (.450. Dress code; natural hairstyles) to AS 23.10 (Title 23. Labor and Workers Compensation 10. Employment Practices and Working Conditions)

This section is identical to section 1, except it deals with an employee and employer relationship rather than school and students.