

HOUSE CS FOR CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 174(L&C) am H

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 5/9/22

Offered: 4/25/22

Sponsor(s): SENATORS WILSON, Gray-Jackson

REPRESENTATIVES Tarr, Josephson, Drummond

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to dress codes and natural hairstyles."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** AS 14.03 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 14.03.135. Dress code; natural hairstyles.** (a) A governing body may not
5 adopt a school dress code that

6 (1) prohibits a student from wearing a hairstyle that is associated with
7 race;

8 (2) prohibits a student from wearing a natural hairstyle, regardless of
9 the student's hair texture or type; in this paragraph, "natural hairstyle" includes braids,
10 locs, twists, tight coils, afros, cornrows, and bantu knots;

11 (3) requires a student to permanently or semipermanently alter the
12 student's natural hair; or

13 (4) prohibits a student from wearing traditional tribal regalia or objects
14 of cultural significance at a graduation ceremony.

15 (b) Notwithstanding (a) of this section, a governing body may adopt a school

- 1 dress code that restricts student hairstyles if the restriction is necessary to comply with
- 2 a health or safety law, regulation, or ordinance.