

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2023

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB630

Chairperson: Senator Dave Murman

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 14, 2023

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 630 would direct the State Department of Education to develop a model dress code and grooming policy. Such policy shall facilitate and encourage an inclusive and positive learning environment while complying with any applicable health or safety law, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution. Such model policy shall not: target, disproportionately impact, discriminate, or be applied in a discriminatory manner against any students on the basis of race, religion, sex, disability, or national origin. Nor shall such policy prohibit a student from wearing attire, including religious attire, natural and protective hairstyles, adornments or other characteristics associated with race, national origin, or religion; or require a student's hair be permanently or temporarily altered.

The model policy shall also provide that enforcement of violations of the written dress code and grooming policy shall be treated as minor on the continuum of school rule violations and shall not constitute student conduct subject to long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment as provided in section 79-267. Any other sanctions shall also not require the student to miss substantial classroom time, instruction time, or school activities; and not authorize an administrator, teacher, other member of the staff, or contractor to permanently or temporarily alter or cut a student's hair.

On or before July 1, 2025, the school board of each school district shall adopt a written dress code and grooming policy to be implemented at the start of the 2025-26 school year that is consistent with the model policy developed by the State Department of Education.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Terrell McKinney