

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 667

BY REPRESENTATIVES PHELPS AND MARCELLE

DISCRIMINATION: Prohibits race discrimination based on natural hairstyles

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:111(A) and to enact R.S. 23:332(I), relative to discrimination;
3 to prohibit discrimination in education and employment based upon natural
4 hairstyles; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:111(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §111. Discrimination in public schools prohibited; pupil assignment; religious
8 educational institutions

9 A.(1) No person shall be refused admission into, ~~or~~ be excluded from, or
10 discriminated against in any form in any public school in the state of Louisiana on
11 account of race, creed, color, disability, as defined in R.S. 51:2232, or national
12 origin.

13 (2) For the purpose of this Section, the term "race" shall include traits
14 historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and
15 protective hairstyles. "Protective hairstyles" shall include but are not limited to
16 natural hairstyles, such as braids, locs, and twists.

17 * * *

18 Section 2. R.S. 23:332(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

19 §332. Intentional discrimination in employment

20 * * *

1 I. For the purpose of this Section, the term "race" shall include traits
 2 historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and
 3 protective hairstyles. "Protective hairstyles" shall include but are not limited to
 4 natural hairstyles, such as braids, locs, and twists.
 5 Section 3. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Louisiana CROWN
 6 Act".

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 667 Original

2022 Regular Session

Phelps

Abstract: Prohibits intentional discrimination in education and employment with respect to natural hairstyles.

Present law provides that no person shall be refused admission into or be excluded from any public school in the state of La. based on race, creed, color, disability as defined in present law, or national origin.

Proposed law retains present law and additionally prohibits discrimination in any form based on race, creed, color, disability as defined in present law, or national origin.

Proposed law further provides that "race" shall include traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and protective hairstyles.

Present law provides that it shall be unlawful discrimination for an employer to engage in certain practices based on race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Proposed law retains present law and adds that for the purpose of proposed law, "race" shall include traits historically associated with race, including but not limited to hair texture and protective hairstyles.

Proposed law further provides that "protective hairstyles" include but are not limited to natural hairstyles, such as braids, locs, and twists.

Proposed law provides that proposed law shall be known and may be cited as the "Louisiana CROWN Act".

(Amends R.S. 17:111(A); Adds R.S. 23:332(I))