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SENATE FILE 2388

BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2305)

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to inmate grooming standards.  
 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 2388

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 904.517 INMATE GROOMING  
2 STANDARDS.

3 The department shall adopt rules establishing personal  
4 grooming standards for inmates of the institutions under the  
5 control of the director. Rules adopted shall include, but  
6 shall not be limited to, the following standards:

7 1. A standard which prohibits an inmate from using the  
8 inmate's hair or scalp to display gang or political  
9 affiliations.

10 2. A standard which prohibits an inmate from changing the  
11 inmate's natural hair color or wearing any nonapproved wig or  
12 hairpiece.

13 3. A standard which limits the length of a male inmate's  
14 scalp hair to three inches and which restricts the size and  
15 length of facial hair as follows:

16 a. Mustaches must extend to the corners of the mouth and  
17 cannot extend more than one-quarter of an inch beyond the  
18 corners of the mouth.

19 b. Whiskers cannot be longer than the top of the inmate's  
20 upper lip.

21 4. A standard which requires a female inmate to use an  
22 approved hair-holding device if the inmate's hair falls below  
23 the inmate's shirt collar, and which prohibits the wearing of  
24 beads or similar ornaments in the inmate's hair.

25 5. A standard which limits the length of an inmate's  
26 fingernails to no more than one quarter of an inch beyond the  
27 end of the fingers and prohibits the use of colored nail  
28 polish by an inmate.

29 6. A standard which prohibits an inmate from piercing or  
30 allowing another inmate to pierce any part of the inmate's  
31 body.

32 7. A standard which limits the wearing of earrings by male  
33 and female inmates by prohibiting male inmates from possessing  
34 or wearing earrings and restricting female inmates to wearing  
35 one institutionally approved earring in each ear.

1 8. A standard which limits the use of cosmetics and false  
2 eyelashes by inmates.

3 EXPLANATION

4 This bill requires the department of corrections to adopt  
5 rules which establish personal grooming standards for the  
6 inmates of the institutions under the control of the director  
7 of the department of corrections. At the time that a person  
8 is initially brought to an institution, the person is to be  
9 informed of the applicable grooming standards and provided the  
10 opportunity to comply prior to being photographed. An inmate  
11 who does not comply with the standards is to be disciplined  
12 according to the rules of the institution to which the inmate  
13 is committed.

14 The bill provides that the standards are to include, but  
15 are not limited to, standards which relate to scalp and facial  
16 hair length and color, use of hair and scalp to display gang  
17 or political affiliation, fingernail length and color, earring  
18 use, use of cosmetics and false eyelashes, and body piercing.

19 Inmates are required under the bill to submit to visual  
20 daily inspection to determine compliance with the standards.

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