

**House File 212 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 212  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 77)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to school district dress code policies and  
2 including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 279.58, subsection 1, Code 2011, is  
2 amended by striking the subsection.

3 Sec. 2. Section 279.58, subsection 2, Code 2011, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 2. The board of directors of a school district may adopt,  
6 for the district or for an individual school within the  
7 district, a dress code policy that ~~prohibits students from~~  
8 ~~wearing gang-related or other specific apparel~~ prescribes  
9 standard dress, or that otherwise imposes limitations on  
10 student dress without limiting a student's constitutional  
11 rights and privileges, if the board determines that the policy  
12 ~~is necessary for~~ would improve the health, safety, or positive  
13 educational environment of students and staff in the school  
14 environment or for the appropriate discipline and operation of  
15 the school.

16 3. Adoption and enforcement of a dress code policy pursuant  
17 to this section is not a violation of section 280.22.

18 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of  
19 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill authorizes a school district to adopt, for the  
22 school district or for an individual school, a dress code  
23 policy that prescribes standard dress, or otherwise imposes  
24 limitations on student dress without limiting a student's  
25 constitutional rights and privileges, if the board of directors  
26 of the school district determines that the policy would improve  
27 the health, safety, or positive educational environment of  
28 students and staff in the school.

29 Currently, a school district is authorized to adopt a dress  
30 code policy that prohibits students from wearing gang-related  
31 or other specific apparel.

32 The bill takes effect upon enactment.