

House File 77 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 77

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PEARSON, HANUSA, DE BOEF,
FORRISTALL, JORGENSEN,
GARRETT, and WATTS

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 uniforms, or that otherwise imposes
10 limitations on student dress without limiting a student's
11 constitutional rights and privileges, if the board determines
12 that the policy ~~is necessary for~~ would improve the health,
13 safety, or positive educational environment of students
14 and staff in the school environment or for the appropriate
15 discipline and operation of 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 uniforms, or otherwise
24 imposes limitations on student dress without limiting a
25 student's constitutional rights and privileges, if the board
26 of directors of the school district determines that the policy
27 would improve the health, safety, or positive educational
28 environment of 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.