House File 2469 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2469

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CROKEN, WILBURN,

ABDUL-SAMAD, and MADISON

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act prohibiting the use of certain names, mascots, or
- 2 related materials by public and accredited nonpublic schools
- 3 and including effective date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. <u>NEW SECTION</u>. **280.36 Prohibition of certain** 2 school names or images.
- 3 1. A public or nonpublic school shall not have or adopt as a
- 4 representation of the school a name, nickname, or team name or
- 5 a symbol, mascot, logo, letterhead, or other image that does
- 6 any of the following:
- 7 a. Depicts or refers to Native Americans, including aspects
- 8 of Native American cultures, custom, tradition, or individual
- 9 or specific Native American tribes.
- 10 b. Denigrates or is commonly thought to be derogatory of
- 11 any racial; ethnic; religious; or physical, intellectual,
- 12 developmental, or learning disability group, or any culture.
- 2. a. Subsection 1, paragraph "a", does not apply to a
- 14 school under the control of a Native American tribe and under
- 15 the purview of the bureau of Indian education.
- 16 b. Subsection 1, paragraph "a", does not apply if a Native
- 17 American tribe has given explicit, written consent for a school
- 18 to use the tribe's name or an image relating to the tribe.
- 19 c. Subsection 1, paragraph "a", shall not be construed to
- 20 prohibit a Native American tribe from choosing to use a Native
- 21 American-related name or a symbol, mascot, logo, letterhead,
- 22 or other image for an athletic team comprised of its tribal
- 23 members, including a tribal school or intramural league.
- 3. Notwithstanding subsection 1, a public school or
- 25 nonpublic school may continue to use uniforms or other
- 26 materials bearing a prohibited matter that were purchased
- 27 before the effective date of this Act if all of the following
- 28 requirements are met:
- 29 a. The school selected a replacement for the prohibited
- 30 material before the effective date of this Act.
- 31 b. The school does not purchase or acquire, for the purpose
- 32 of distribution or sale to students or school employees, any
- 33 uniform that includes or bears the prohibited material on or
- 34 after the effective date of this Act.
- 35 c. The school does not purchase or acquire, for the purpose

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- 1 of distribution or sale to students or school employees, any
- 2 yearbook, newspaper, program, or other similar material that
- 3 includes or bears the prohibited material in its logo, cover,
- 4 or title on or after the effective date of this Act.
- 5 d. The school does not purchase or construct a marquee,
- 6 sign, or other new or replacement fixture that includes or
- 7 bears the prohibited material on or after the effective date of
- 8 this Act, and removes such material from existing fixtures by
- 9 the effective date of this Act.
- 10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect July 1, 2025.
- 11 EXPLANATION
- 12 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
- the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 14 This bill prohibits a public or accredited nonpublic school
- 15 from having or adopting as a representation of the school
- 16 a name, nickname, or team name or a symbol, mascot, logo,
- 17 letterhead, or other image that depicts or refers to Native
- 18 Americans, including aspects of Native American cultures,
- 19 custom, tradition, or individual or specific Native American
- 20 tribes. The bill specifies exceptions to this prohibition.
- 21 The bill also prohibits a public or accredited nonpublic school
- 22 from having or adopting as a representation of the school
- 23 a name, nickname, or team name or a symbol, mascot, logo,
- 24 letterhead, or other image that denigrates or is commonly
- 25 thought to be derogatory of any racial; ethnic; religious; or
- 26 physical, intellectual, developmental, or learning disability
- 27 group, or any culture.
- 28 A public school or nonpublic school may continue to use
- 29 uniforms or other materials bearing a prohibited matter that
- 30 were purchased before July 1, 2025, if specified requirements
- 31 are met.
- 32 The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.