

House File 402 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 402

BY KURTH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act prohibiting certain mascots in schools, and including
2 effective date provisions.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 280.33 Prohibition of certain
2 mascots.

3 A public or nonpublic school shall not have or adopt a
4 name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to any of the
5 following:

6 1. a. A Native American tribe, individual, custom, or
7 tradition to be used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead,
8 or team name of the school.

9 b. Paragraph "a" shall not apply to a school under the
10 control of a Native American tribe and under the purview of the
11 bureau of Indian education.

12 2. A term that is commonly thought to be derogatory of a
13 specific group or culture.

14 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect July 1, 2025.

15 EXPLANATION

16 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
17 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

18 This bill prohibits a public or nonpublic school from having
19 or adopting a name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to
20 a term that is commonly thought to be derogatory of a specific
21 group or culture or a Native American tribe, individual,
22 custom, or tradition to be used as a mascot, nickname, logo,
23 letterhead, or team name of the school. The prohibition on
24 Native American mascots does not apply to a school under the
25 control of a Native American tribe and under the purview of the
26 bureau of Indian education.

27 The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.