

By: Representative Summers

To: Education;  
Accountability, Efficiency,  
Transparency

HOUSE BILL NO. 1343

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE "MODEL MISSISSIPPI HAIR PROTECTION IN  
2 SCHOOLS POLICY ACT"; TO REQUIRE PUBLIC AND CHARTER SCHOOLS TO  
3 CREATE POLICIES WITH GUIDELINES THAT PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION BASED  
4 ON HAIRSTYLES; TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM GUIDELINES FOR THE POLICIES;  
5 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
8 "Model Mississippi Hair Protection in Schools Policy Act".

9 **SECTION 2.** Each school and school district shall adopt a  
10 policy to ensure that no student is discriminated against based on  
11 his or her hairstyle choices. The policy shall be based on the  
12 best practice models for protecting children against  
13 discriminatory practices based on hairstyles. At a minimum, the  
14 policies shall:

15 (a) Explicitly prohibit discrimination based on natural hair  
16 and protective hairstyles;

17 (b) Remove any policies or punitive actions that have the  
18 effect of restricting hairstyles that are disproportionately  
19 associated with specific racial or cultural groups;



20 (c) Highlight the impact of hair-based discrimination on  
21 students' mental health and academic performance through staff and  
22 administration trainings;

23 (d) Establish clear, accessible channels for students and  
24 families to report instances of hair-based discrimination;

25 (e) Refrain from suspensions and other forms of discipline  
26 for violations of appearance rules that disrupt students' learning  
27 time; and

28 (f) Maintain written procedures for students to report  
29 concerns of potential discrimination in the enforcement of  
30 appearance policies, with clear guidelines and assurances of no  
31 retaliation for reporting such.

32 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
33 and after July 1, 2025.

