

STUDENT TRIBAL REGALIA USE AMENDMENTS

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill permits qualifying students to wear tribal regalia during a high school graduation ceremony.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ provides that:
 - a student who is enrolled, or is eligible to be enrolled, as a member of a tribe (qualifying student) may wear tribal regalia during a high school graduation ceremony; and
 - a local education agency may not prohibit a qualifying student from wearing tribal regalia during a high school graduation ceremony; and
- ▶ defines terms.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53G-4-412, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53G-4-412** is enacted to read:

53G-4-412. Tribal regalia at high school graduation ceremonies.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Graduation attire" means attire that an LEA requires a student to wear as part of the dress code for a graduation ceremony.

(b) "Graduation ceremony" means a high school graduation ceremony.

- 33 (c) "Qualifying student" means a student who is:
- 34 (i) enrolled as a member of a tribe; or
- 35 (ii) eligible to be enrolled as a member of a tribe.
- 36 (d) (i) "Tribal regalia" means a tribe's:
- 37 (A) traditional dress; or
- 38 (B) recognized objects of religious or cultural significance.
- 39 (ii) "Tribal regalia" includes the following items of cultural significance:
- 40 (A) tribal symbols;
- 41 (B) beads; and
- 42 (C) feathers.
- 43 (e) "Tribe" means a tribe, band, nation, or Alaskan Native village that:
- 44 (i) federal law recognizes; or
- 45 (ii) a state formally acknowledges.
- 46 (2) (a) A qualifying student may wear tribal regalia during a graduation ceremony.
- 47 (b) Wearing tribal regalia includes decorating graduation attire with tribal regalia.
- 48 (3) An LEA may not prohibit a qualifying student from wearing tribal regalia as
- 49 described in Subsection (2).
- 50 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit an LEA's authority related to
- 51 student expression under applicable federal and state law.