

1 **STUDENT TRIBAL REGALIA USE AMENDMENTS**

2 2022 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Angela Romero**

5 Senate Sponsor: Jani Iwamoto

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7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **Committee Note:**

9 The Native American Legislative Liaison Committee recommended this bill.

10 Legislative Vote: 8 voting for 0 voting against 3 absent

11 **General Description:**

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

14 **Highlighted Provisions:**

15 This bill:

16 ▶ provides that:

17 • a student who is enrolled, or is eligible to be enrolled, as a member of a tribe  
18 (qualifying student) may wear tribal regalia during a high school graduation  
19 ceremony; and

20 • a local education agency may not prohibit a qualifying student from wearing  
21 tribal regalia during a high school graduation ceremony; and

22 ▶ defines terms.

23 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

24 None

25 **Other Special Clauses:**

26 None

27 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**



28 ENACTS:

29 **53G-4-412**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

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

33 **53G-4-412. Tribal regalia at high school graduation ceremonies.**

34 (1) As used in this section:

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

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

38 (c) "Qualifying student" means a student who is:

39 (i) enrolled as a member of a tribe; or

40 (ii) eligible to be enrolled as a member of a tribe.

41 (d) (i) "Tribal regalia" means a tribe's:

42 (A) traditional dress; or

43 (B) recognized objects of religious or cultural significance.

44 (ii) "Tribal regalia" includes the following items of cultural significance:

45 (A) tribal symbols;

46 (B) beads; and

47 (C) feathers.

48 (e) "Tribe" means a tribe, band, nation, or Alaskan Native village that:

49 (i) federal law recognizes; or

50 (ii) a state formally acknowledges.

51 (2) (a) A qualifying student may wear tribal regalia during a graduation ceremony.

52 (b) Wearing tribal regalia includes decorating graduation attire with tribal regalia.

53 (3) An LEA may not prohibit a qualifying student from wearing tribal regalia as  
54 described in Subsection (2).

55 (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit an LEA's authority related to  
56 student expression under applicable federal and state law.