

HB 2356 -- DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES

SPONSOR: Washington

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill prohibits discrimination on the basis of hair texture and protective hairstyles in educational institutions that receive or benefit from state financial assistance or state student financial aid.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that many students across the country have been placed in humiliating discriminatory situations due to their hairstyles and Missouri should do better. Witnesses gave examples of their own experiences and others of people they know.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Washington; American Civil Liberties Union; Kimberlyn Jones; and Michelle L. Watley, Shirley's Kitchen Cabinet.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.