



1815 - Discrimination: hairstyles: amateur sports organizations.

Assemblymember Akilah Weber, M.D.

SUMMARY

AB 1815 would prohibit amateur sport clubs or organizations from discriminating against any person on the basis of race, inclusive of traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles in the operation, conduct, or administration of a youth or amateur sports competition, training, camp, or club.

BACKGROUND

In 2019 California passed SB 188 which prohibited racial discrimination in schools and in the workplace, dress and grooming codes have a disparate and negative impact on African Americans, whose traditional hairstyles may not conform to Eurocentric standards of professionalism. This bill also amended the definition of "race," for purposes of the anti-discrimination provisions of the Education Code and the Fair Employment and Housing Act, to include traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles.

The original CROWN Act protected students and employees however many children compete in non-school affiliated athletics such as club sports and adults participate in sports and are not paid to do so.

This type of discrimination still exists and is harmful which is why legislation is needed to ensure that no one faces discrimination on any field, court, pool, track, or ring.

SPECIFICALLY, THIS BILL

AB 1815 would expand upon the CROWN act by prohibiting an amateur sports club or organization from discriminating against any person on the basis of race, inclusive of traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles in the operation, conduct, or administration of a youth or amateur sports competition, training, camp, or club.

SUPPORT

Western Center on Law & Poverty (Sponsor)

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