

Release Date
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BILL STATUS OF HB3413 & SB1446

DNR-REMAINS-NATIVE AMERICANS
SCH CD-DRESS CODE POLICY



Illinois State Museum in Springfield. *(Photo by ILLINOIS NEWSROOM)

HB3413 - Remains - Native Americans Source

House Bill 3413, passed unanimously out of the House, is a crucial move towards preserving the cultural heritage of Native American communities. The bill emphasizes the importance of returning Native American remains and cultural artifacts to their affiliated tribal nations and ensures a more concerted effort in this regard.



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The amended Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act changes references from "Indian" to "Native American" and "Historic Preservation Agency" to "Department of Natural Resources". This change in language underscores the respect and recognition that Native American communities deserve in the preservation of their cultural heritage.

Furthermore, the bill provides for the creation of a cemetery on existing State lands for the reburial of repatriated Native American remains and materials. This cemetery is to be protected by the State of Illinois and shall not be used by the public. The Director of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Illinois State Museum and State Archaeologist, will coordinate reinterment in the cemetery.

The passing of House Bill 3413 marks an important milestone in the journey towards the preservation of Native American cultural heritage. It is a testament to the State of Illinois' commitment to creating a more inclusive and respectful society. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of this bill on Native American communities and their cultural heritage.



SB1446 - School Dress Code Policy Source

SB1446 is a significant step towards allowing students to express their cultural and religious identity without fear of being penalized under school dress code policies. Under this bill, students can exercise their right to wear articles of clothing and accessories that have cultural or religious significance to them without fear of being deemed inappropriate or disruptive.

This bill specifically recognizes the importance of Native American items of cultural significance. It includes provisions to ensure that schools are provided with resource materials to understand the cultural significance of these items and how they may be worn. The State Board of Education has



been charged to develop these resources in consultation with stakeholders, including representatives from Native American tribes.

It is important to note that this bill does not allow for derogatory or obscene articles of clothing or accessories to be worn. However, it recognizes that religious and cultural beliefs should be respected and acknowledges that this can be expressed through clothing and accessories.

By allowing students to wear articles of clothing and accessories that are associated with their cultural or religious identity, SB1446 promotes a more inclusive and safe school environment. It is a necessary step towards promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in schools across the state of Illinois.



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As the implementation deadline for this bill approaches, we encourage schools to take advantage of the resource materials provided by the State Board of Education. We hope that this bill will help foster greater understanding and acceptance of cultural and religious diversity among our student population.

This bill has passed both houses (104-7) and it is now on its way to Governor Pritzker's desk for signature.



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CAICC MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

American Indian Association of Illinois
American Indian Center of Chicago
California Indian Manpower
Caroline & Ora Smith Foundation
CPS American Indian Education Program
D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian &
Indigenous Studies – Newberry Library
Menominee Community Center of Chicago
Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

Native American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois
Native American Educational Services College
Northwestern University – Native American &
Indigenous Initiatives
St. Kateri Center of Chicago
Trickster Cultural Center
Native American Support Program – UIC
Visionary Ventures NFP
Wolf River Consulting Group LLC