



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MICHIGAN'S STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION
IN SUPPORT OF MICHIGAN CROWN ACT**

WHEREAS Michiganders have faced discrimination because of the way that they choose to wear their hair;

WHEREAS four studies conducted by Michigan State University show a bias against Black women with natural hairstyles in job recruitment;

WHEREAS Michigan's State Board of Education supports all student learning in schools free of discrimination, harassment, and bullying;

WHEREAS State Senator Sarah Anthony introduced [Senate Bill 90](#), known as the CROWN (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) Act, in order to eliminate hair discrimination or the denial of employment and educational opportunities because of hair texture or protective hairstyles including, but not limited to, braids, locs/locks, twists, or bantu knots;

WHEREAS there are 20 states and several municipalities that have passed the CROWN Act to provide legal protections against race-based hair discrimination in workplaces and schools;

WHEREAS Michigan's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, as recently amended by the state legislature, pending governor's signature, will prohibit discrimination in employment, education, housing, and full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of a place of public accommodation or public service because of "religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression, height, weight, familial status, or marital status";

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Michigan's State Board of Education supports the passage of [Senate Bill 90](#), which would amend Michigan's Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act to add:

"'Race' is inclusive of traits historically associated with race, including, but not limited to, hair texture and protective hairstyles. For purposes of this definition, 'protective hairstyles' includes, but is not limited to, such hairstyles as braids, locks, and twists."

Adopted on March 14, 2023 on a vote of 7-1

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