
SENATE BILL 5450

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senator Ericksen

1 AN ACT Relating to prohibiting the inappropriate use of Native
2 American names, symbols, or images as public school mascots, logos,
3 or team names; adding a new section to chapter 28A.320 RCW; and
4 creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that the use of
7 racially derogatory or discriminatory school mascots, logos, or team
8 names in public schools is antithetical to their mission of providing
9 an equal education to all, and contrary to the goal of making schools
10 safe and respectful learning environments.

11 (2) The legislature therefore, recognizing that no school has a
12 cognizable interest in retaining a racially derogatory or
13 discriminatory school mascot, logo, or team name, intends to prohibit
14 the inappropriate use of Native American names, symbols, or images
15 for those purposes.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.320
17 RCW to read as follows:

18 (1) Except as provided otherwise by this section, beginning
19 January 1, 2022, public schools may not use Native American names,
20 symbols, or images as school mascots, logos, or team names.

1 (2) This section does not apply to public schools located within,
2 or with enrollment boundaries that include a portion of, "Indian
3 country," as defined in 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1151, or public schools in a
4 county that contains all or part of a tribal reservation or tribal
5 trust lands, if the tribe or tribes having regulatory jurisdiction
6 over the territory within that boundary have:

7 (a) Been consulted by the appropriate school, district, or both.
8 Consultations under this subsection (2)(a) must include summaries of
9 completed and ongoing district and school actions required by RCW
10 28A.320.170; and

11 (b) Authorized the use of the name, symbol, or image as a mascot,
12 logo, or team name through an appropriate enactment or resolution.

13 (3) A public school may use uniforms or other materials after
14 January 1, 2022, bearing Native American names, symbols, or images as
15 mascots, logos, or team names if the uniforms or materials were
16 purchased before January 1, 2022, and if:

17 (a) The school selects a new mascot, logo, or team name by
18 December 31, 2021, to take effect in the 2021-22 school year;

19 (b) Except as provided otherwise by this subsection (3)(b), the
20 school does not purchase or acquire any uniforms or materials that
21 include the discontinued Native American name, symbol, or image.
22 However, a school using the discontinued Native American name,
23 symbol, or image may, until January 1, 2023, purchase or acquire a
24 number of uniforms equal to up to twenty percent of the total number
25 of uniforms used by a team, band, or cheer squad at that school
26 during the 2021-22 school year solely to replace damaged or lost
27 uniforms;

28 (c) The school does not purchase, create, or acquire any
29 yearbook, newspaper, program, or other similar material that includes
30 or bears the discontinued Native American name, symbol, or image; and

31 (d) The school does not purchase, construct, or acquire a
32 marquee, sign, or other new or replacement fixture that includes or
33 bears the discontinued Native American name, symbol, or image.

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