

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1393**

Chapter 88, Laws of 2025

69th Legislature  
2025 Regular Session

PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIES—CULTURAL EXPRESSION

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 27, 2025

Passed by the House March 4, 2025  
Yeas 88 Nays 7

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 11, 2025  
Yeas 47 Nays 1

DENNY HECK

**President of the Senate**

Approved April 21, 2025 9:34 AM

BOB FERGUSON

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1393** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

April 21, 2025

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

---

**ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1393**

---

Passed Legislature - 2025 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives McEntire, Morgan, Stonier, Simmons, Thai, Bergquist, Taylor, Springer, Wylie, Pollet, Ormsby, Hill, and Santos

Read first time 01/20/25. Referred to Committee on Education.

1       AN ACT Relating to providing public school students with  
2 opportunities for cultural expression at commencement ceremonies;  
3 adding a new section to chapter 28A.600 RCW; and creating a new  
4 section.

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

6       NEW SECTION.     **Sec. 1.**     The legislature recognizes that high  
7 school graduation is a significant milestone in a young person's life  
8 representing years of academic and personal growth made possible  
9 through hard work, perseverance, and the support of family, friends,  
10 and teachers.

11       In acknowledgment of students' accomplishments, and the  
12 identities and traditions informing their success, the legislature  
13 intends to provide public school students with the opportunity to  
14 express their cultural heritage at high school commencements and  
15 other official graduation ceremonies and events through the wearing  
16 of items or objects of cultural significance. The legislature intends  
17 also for this policy to bring parity to all cultural groups by  
18 allowing them to express cultural pride at commencements and other  
19 official graduation ceremonies and events.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 28A.600  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) School districts shall permit students to wear an item or  
4    object of cultural significance with or attached to their gown at  
5    high school commencements and other official graduation ceremonies  
6    and events. For the purposes of this section, "an item or object of  
7    cultural significance" may include multiple items or objects if they  
8    are traditionally worn or used together. Items or objects worn in  
9    accordance with this section must be befitting of the ceremony or  
10   event and adhere to applicable decorum requirements of the school  
11   district.

12       (2) This section governs school operation and management under  
13   RCW 28A.710.040 and 28A.715.020 and applies to charter schools  
14   established under chapter 28A.710 RCW and state-tribal education  
15   compact schools subject to chapter 28A.715 RCW to the same extent as  
16   it applies to school districts.

17       (3) Nothing in this section limits the discretion and authority  
18   of a school district to prohibit items or objects that are likely to  
19   cause a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, a  
20   high school commencement or other official graduation ceremony or  
21   event.

22       (4) Nothing in this section modifies or otherwise effects RCW  
23   28A.600.500.

Passed by the House March 4, 2025.  
Passed by the Senate April 11, 2025.  
Approved by the Governor April 21, 2025.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 21, 2025.

--- END ---