

in Full Support of HB 7724

Simply put:

End Hair Discrimination NOW!

Hair discrimination is real and we need to put a stop to it. Hair discrimination leads to the denial of employment and educational opportunities because of hair texture or protective hairstyles including braids, locks, twists or bantu knots, which are referred to as race-based hairstyles.

Research studies have resulted in compiling data that racial discrimination based on hairstyles can start as early as five years old – and last a lifetime. It's time to do everything in our power to confront this. This legislation will help to move forward with resolving and standing strong against this type of bias in our school system in Rhode Island.

Nearly half the states in the union have laws on the books to protect against hair discrimination including our near neighboring states New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Maine. California was the first state to pass such protection in 2019.

Rhode Island let's be positive and inclusive.

I urge you to pass this legislation out of committee and to the floor for a full vote... in 2024 !

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