



HOUSE BILL No. 5962

June 7, 1996, Introduced by Reps. Hanley, LaForge, Price, DeMars, Baade, Ryan, Kaza, Vaughn and Jersevic and referred to the Committee on Education.

A bill to amend Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, entitled as amended "The revised school code," as amended, being sections 380.1 to 380.1852 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, by adding section 1310.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1976, as
2 amended, being sections 380.1 to 380.1852 of the Michigan
3 Compiled Laws, is amended by adding section 1310 to read as
4 follows:

5 SEC. 1310. (1) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ADOPT AND
6 ENFORCE A POLICY REQUIRING PUPILS TO WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORMS IF THE
7 POLICY MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1 (A) THE POLICY IS ADOPTED ONLY AFTER THE BOARD HAS HELD AT
2 LEAST 2 PUBLIC HEARINGS TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR
3 THE POLICY.

4 (B) IF THE POLICY IS MANDATORY, THE POLICY INCLUDES A PROVI-
5 SION THAT THE PUPIL WILL BE EXCUSED, WITHOUT PENALTY OR LOSS OF
6 ACADEMIC CREDIT, FROM THE UNIFORM REQUIREMENT UPON WRITTEN
7 REQUEST OF THE PUPIL'S PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OR, IF THE PUPIL
8 IS AT LEAST AGE 18 OR IS AN EMANCIPATED MINOR, OF THE PUPIL.

9 (C) THE POLICY DOES NOT INCLUDE A REQUIREMENT THAT THE
10 SCHOOL UNIFORM BEAR A SUBSTANTIVE MESSAGE OF ANY KIND, OTHER THAN
11 THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT.

12 (2) THE BOARD OF A SCHOOL DISTRICT MAY ADOPT AND ENFORCE A
13 DRESS CODE FOR PUPILS. A DRESS CODE MAY PROHIBIT PUPILS FROM
14 WEARING CLOTHING WITH CERTAIN LANGUAGE OR OF CERTAIN COLORS, OR
15 PROHIBIT BUTTONS OR OTHER EXPRESSIVE ITEMS, IF THE BOARD DETER-
16 MINES THAT THE LANGUAGE, COLORS, OR EXPRESSIVE ITEMS CONTRIBUTE
17 INDEPENDENTLY TO DISRUPTION.

18 (3) A SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY OR DRESS CODE ADOPTED BY A
19 SCHOOL BOARD MUST ACCOMMODATE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS BY ALLOWING THE
20 WEARING OF ITEMS CONTAINING RELIGIOUS MESSAGES TO THE SAME EXTENT
21 THAT OTHER SUBSTANTIVE MESSAGES ARE ALLOWED AND BY ALLOWING PAR-
22 TICULAR ATTIRE THAT IS A NECESSARY PART OF A PUPIL'S RELIGIOUS
23 PRACTICE.