
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1394 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY MAYES, McCLINTON, BELLMON, HOHENSTEIN, RABB,
KINSEY, McNEILL, KENYATTA, STEELE, PROBST, MADDEN, BRENNAN,
SCHLOSSBERG, HILL-EVANS, HANBIDGE, KAZEEM, BENHAM, BOROWSKI,
SMITH-WADE-EL, CERRATO, KIM, WARREN, PISCIOTTANO, MERSKI,
PARKER, BULLOCK, SALISBURY, KHAN, SHUSTERMAN, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ,
WAXMAN, MALAGARI, MADSEN, CURRY AND DONAHUE, JUNE 13, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 13, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), entitled
2 "An act prohibiting certain practices of discrimination
3 because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age or
4 national origin by employers, employment agencies, labor
5 organizations and others as herein defined; creating the
6 Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission in the Governor's
7 Office; defining its functions, powers and duties; providing
8 for procedure and enforcement; providing for formulation of
9 an educational program to prevent prejudice; providing for
10 judicial review and enforcement and imposing penalties,"
11 further providing for definitions.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Section 4 of the act of October 27, 1955
15 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the Pennsylvania Human Relations
16 Act, is amended by adding clauses to read:

17 Section 4. Definitions.--As used in this act unless a
18 different meaning clearly appears from the context:

19 * * *

20 (bb) The term "race" includes traits historically associated

1 with race, including hair texture and protective hairstyles.

2 (cc) The term "protective hairstyle" includes, but is not
3 limited to, such hairstyles as dreads, locs, braids, twists,
4 coils, Bantu knots, cornrows and extensions.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.