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H.641

Introduced by Representatives Notte of Rutland City, Mulvaney-Stanak of Burlington, Anthony of Barre City, Bluemle of Burlington, Bos-Lun of Westminster, Burrows of West Windsor, Christie of Hartford, Cina of Burlington, Coffey of Guilford, Colburn of Burlington, Colston of Winooski, Cordes of Lincoln, Dolan of Waitsfield, Elder of Starksboro, Jerome of Brandon, Killacky of South Burlington, Masland of Thetford, Morris of Springfield, Mrowicki of Putney, Nicoll of Ludlow, Small of Winooski, Surprenant of Barnard, Troiano of Stannard, Vyhovsky of Essex, White of Hartford, Wood of Waterbury, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Education; public schools; postsecondary schools; school mascots; school team names

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit a public school or public postsecondary school from having or adopting a name, symbol, or image that depicts or refers to a racial or ethnic group, individual, custom, or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, or team name of the school.

1 An act relating to public schools' or public postsecondary schools' mascots,
2 nicknames, logos, letterhead, and team names

3 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

4 Sec. 1. 16 V.S.A. chapter 1, subchapter 10 is added to read:

5 Subchapter 10. Mascots, Nicknames, Logos, Letterhead, and Team Names

6 § 141. PROHIBITION ON RACIAL OR ETHNIC NAMES, SYMBOLS, OR

7 IMAGES

8 A public school or public postsecondary school that physically operates in
9 the State shall not have or adopt a name, symbol, or image that depicts or
10 refers to a racial or ethnic group, individual, custom, or tradition and that is
11 used as a mascot, nickname, logo, letterhead, or team name of the school. A
12 public school or public postsecondary school shall not retain a name, symbol,
13 or image that previously depicted or referred to a racial or ethnic group,
14 individual, custom, or tradition and that is used as a mascot, nickname, logo,
15 letterhead, or team name of the school. Any public school not in compliance
16 three years after passage of this act shall be ineligible to compete in Vermont
17 Principals' Association-sanctioned events.

18 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

19 This act shall take effect on passage.