

HOUSE BILL 194

**57TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2025**

INTRODUCED BY

D. Wonda Johnson and Janelle Anyanonu and Charlotte Little  
and Joseph Franklin Hernandez and Derrick J. Lente

AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL; PROTECTING THE CULTURAL EXPRESSION OF  
STUDENTS AT GRADUATION AND PROMOTION CEREMONIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Public School Code is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] CULTURAL PROTECTIONS AT GRADUATION AND  
PROMOTION CEREMONIES.--

A. A public school, private school or charter  
school shall not prohibit a student who is enrolled, or  
eligible for enrollment, in a federally recognized Indian  
nation, tribe or pueblo from wearing objects of cultural  
significance at a graduation or promotion ceremony.

B. For the purposes of this section, "objects of  
cultural significance" means items that hold special meaning

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underscored material = new  
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1 for federally recognized Indian nations, tribes or pueblos,  
2 including tribal regalia, jewelry, moccasins, beaded graduation  
3 caps and feathers."

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