

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

H

1

HOUSE BILL 166

Short Title: American Indians Graduating with Honors Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lowery, Gillespie, B. Jones, and Clampitt (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Federal Relations and American Indian Affairs, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and
Operations of the House

February 23, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO ALLOW AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS TO WEAR CULTURAL OBJECTS
AT PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. The title of Article 29D of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes reads
as rewritten:

"Article 29D. ~~Student Prayer and Religious Activity~~. Activity and Cultural Expression."

SECTION 2. Article 29D of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes is amended by
adding a new section to read:

"§ 115C-407.40. Cultural expression at graduation ceremonies.

A student that is, or is eligible to be, enrolled as a member of a State or federally recognized
Indian tribe shall be allowed to wear objects of cultural significance as part of the student's regalia
at any graduation ceremony for a school within a public school unit in which the student is a
graduating participant. For purposes of this section, an object of cultural significance includes
bird feathers and plumes."

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.



* H 1 6 6 - V - 1 *