

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**S. B. No. 73**

**Senators Hicks-Hudson, Ingram**

**Cosponsors: Senators Weinstein, Smith, Antonio, Craig, DeMora**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3314.03, 3326.11, 3328.24, and 4112.01 and to enact section 3313.6612 of the Revised Code to enact the Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act to prohibit discrimination against an individual based on hair texture and protective hair styles.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That sections 3314.03, 3326.11, 3328.24, and 4112.01 be amended and section 3313.6612 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

**Sec. 3313.6612.** (A) As used in this section:

(1) "Public or private primary or secondary school" includes all of the following:

(a) A preschool as defined in section 2950.034 of the Revised Code;

(b) A school operated by a city, local, or exempted village school district, a joint vocational school district, a

community school established under Chapter 3314., a STEM school 18  
established under Chapter 3326., or a college-preparatory 19  
boarding school established under Chapter 3328. of the Revised 20  
Code; 21

(c) A chartered nonpublic school as defined in section 22  
3310.01 of the Revised Code. 23

(2) "Race" includes traits associated with an individual's 24  
race, including hair texture and protective hair styles, such as 25  
braids, locks, and twists. 26

(B) No public or private primary or secondary school shall 27  
discriminate against any individual with respect to any program 28  
or activity on account of an individual's traits that are 29  
associated with the individual's race. 30

(C) Any individual alleging that a public or private 31  
primary or secondary school has violated this section may bring 32  
a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction. 33

**Sec. 3314.03.** A copy of every contract entered into under 34  
this section shall be filed with the director of education and 35  
workforce. The department of education and workforce shall make 36  
available on its web site a copy of every approved, executed 37  
contract filed with the director under this section. 38

(A) Each contract entered into between a sponsor and the 39  
governing authority of a community school shall specify the 40  
following: 41

(1) That the school shall be established as either of the 42  
following: 43

(a) A nonprofit corporation established under Chapter 44  
1702. of the Revised Code, if established prior to April 8, 45

2003;	46
(b) A public benefit corporation established under Chapter 1702. of the Revised Code, if established after April 8, 2003.	47 48
(2) The education program of the school, including the school's mission, the characteristics of the students the school is expected to attract, the ages and grades of students, and the focus of the curriculum;	49 50 51 52
(3) The academic goals to be achieved and the method of measurement that will be used to determine progress toward those goals, which shall include the statewide achievement assessments;	53 54 55 56
(4) Performance standards, including but not limited to all applicable report card measures set forth in section 3302.03 or 3314.017 of the Revised Code, by which the success of the school will be evaluated by the sponsor;	57 58 59 60
(5) The admission standards of section 3314.06 of the Revised Code and, if applicable, section 3314.061 of the Revised Code;	61 62 63
(6) (a) Dismissal procedures;	64
(b) A requirement that the governing authority adopt an attendance policy that includes a procedure for automatically withdrawing a student from the school if the student without a legitimate excuse fails to participate in seventy-two consecutive hours of the learning opportunities offered to the student.	65 66 67 68 69 70
(7) The ways by which the school will achieve racial and ethnic balance reflective of the community it serves;	71 72
(8) Requirements for financial audits by the auditor of	73

state. The contract shall require financial records of the 74  
school to be maintained in the same manner as are financial 75  
records of school districts, pursuant to rules of the auditor of 76  
state. Audits shall be conducted in accordance with section 77  
117.10 of the Revised Code. 78

(9) An addendum to the contract outlining the facilities 79  
to be used that contains at least the following information: 80

(a) A detailed description of each facility used for 81  
instructional purposes; 82

(b) The annual costs associated with leasing each facility 83  
that are paid by or on behalf of the school; 84

(c) The annual mortgage principal and interest payments 85  
that are paid by the school; 86

(d) The name of the lender or landlord, identified as 87  
such, and the lender's or landlord's relationship to the 88  
operator, if any. 89

(10) Qualifications of employees, including both of the 90  
following: 91

(a) A requirement that the school's classroom teachers be 92  
licensed in accordance with sections 3319.22 to 3319.31 of the 93  
Revised Code, except that a community school may engage 94  
noncertificated persons to teach up to twelve hours or forty 95  
hours per week pursuant to section 3319.301 of the Revised Code; 96

(b) A prohibition against the school employing an 97  
individual described in section 3314.104 of the Revised Code in 98  
any position. 99

(11) That the school will comply with the following 100  
requirements: 101

(a) The school will provide learning opportunities to a 102  
minimum of twenty-five students for a minimum of nine hundred 103  
twenty hours per school year. 104

(b) The governing authority will purchase liability 105  
insurance, or otherwise provide for the potential liability of 106  
the school. 107

(c) The school will be nonsectarian in its programs, 108  
admission policies, employment practices, and all other 109  
operations, and will not be operated by a sectarian school or 110  
religious institution. 111

(d) The school will comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 112  
109.65, 121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 3301.0710, 113  
3301.0711, 3301.0712, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 114  
3313.472, 3313.473, 3313.474, 3313.50, 3313.539, 3313.5310, 115  
3313.5318, 3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.609, 3313.6012, 3313.6013, 116  
3313.6014, 3313.6020, 3313.6024, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 117  
3313.6029, 3313.643, 3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 118  
3313.661, 3313.662, 3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 119  
3313.6610, 3313.6612, 3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 120  
3313.69, 3313.71, 3313.716, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 121  
3313.7117, 3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.814, 3313.816, 122  
3313.817, 3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 123  
3319.073, 3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.238, 3319.318, 124  
3319.321, 3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 125  
3319.46, 3319.90, 3319.614, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3320.04, 126  
3321.01, 3321.041, 3321.13, 3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 127  
3321.19, 3322.20, 3322.24, 3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 128  
5502.262, 5502.703, and 5705.391 and Chapters 117., 1347., 129  
2744., 3365., 3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 4167. of the 130  
Revised Code as if it were a school district and will comply 131

with section 3301.0714 of the Revised Code in the manner 132  
specified in section 3314.17 of the Revised Code. 133

(e) The school shall comply with Chapter 102. and section 134  
2921.42 of the Revised Code. 135

(f) The school will comply with sections 3313.61, 136  
3313.611, 3313.614, 3313.617, 3313.618, and 3313.6114 of the 137  
Revised Code, except that for students who enter ninth grade for 138  
the first time before July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 139  
3313.61 and 3313.611 of the Revised Code that a person must 140  
successfully complete the curriculum in any high school prior to 141  
receiving a high school diploma may be met by completing the 142  
curriculum adopted by the governing authority of the community 143  
school rather than the curriculum specified in Title XXXIII of 144  
the Revised Code or any rules of the department. Beginning with 145  
students who enter ninth grade for the first time on or after 146  
July 1, 2010, the requirement in sections 3313.61 and 3313.611 147  
of the Revised Code that a person must successfully complete the 148  
curriculum of a high school prior to receiving a high school 149  
diploma shall be met by completing the requirements prescribed 150  
in section 3313.6027 and division (C) of section 3313.603 of the 151  
Revised Code, unless the person qualifies under division (D) or 152  
(F) of that section. Each school shall comply with the plan for 153  
awarding high school credit based on demonstration of subject 154  
area competency, and beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, 155  
with the updated plan that permits students enrolled in seventh 156  
and eighth grade to meet curriculum requirements based on 157  
subject area competency adopted by the department under 158  
divisions (J) (1) and (2) of section 3313.603 of the Revised 159  
Code. Beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, the school shall 160  
comply with the framework for granting units of high school 161  
credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency 162

through work-based learning experiences, internships, or 163  
cooperative education developed by the department under division 164  
(J) (3) of section 3313.603 of the Revised Code. 165

(g) The school governing authority will submit within four 166  
months after the end of each school year a report of its 167  
activities and progress in meeting the goals and standards of 168  
divisions (A) (3) and (4) of this section and its financial 169  
status to the sponsor and the parents of all students enrolled 170  
in the school. 171

(h) The school, unless it is an internet- or computer- 172  
based community school, will comply with section 3313.801 of the 173  
Revised Code as if it were a school district. 174

(i) If the school is the recipient of moneys from a grant 175  
awarded under the federal race to the top program, Division (A), 176  
Title XIV, Sections 14005 and 14006 of the "American Recovery 177  
and Reinvestment Act of 2009," Pub. L. No. 111-5, 123 Stat. 115, 178  
the school will pay teachers based upon performance in 179  
accordance with section 3317.141 and will comply with section 180  
3319.111 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 181

(j) If the school operates a preschool program that is 182  
licensed by the department under sections 3301.52 to 3301.59 of 183  
the Revised Code, the school shall comply with sections 3301.50 184  
to 3301.59 of the Revised Code and the minimum standards for 185  
preschool programs prescribed in rules adopted by the department 186  
of children and youth under section 3301.53 of the Revised Code. 187

(k) The school will comply with sections 3313.6021 and 188  
3313.6023 of the Revised Code as if it were a school district 189  
unless it is either of the following: 190

(i) An internet- or computer-based community school; 191

(ii) A community school in which a majority of the enrolled students are children with disabilities as described in division (B) (2) of section 3314.35 of the Revised Code.	192 193 194
(1) The school will comply with section 3321.191 of the Revised Code, unless it is an internet- or computer-based community school that is subject to section 3314.261 of the Revised Code.	195 196 197 198
(12) Arrangements for providing health and other benefits to employees;	199 200
(13) The length of the contract, which shall begin at the beginning of an academic year. No contract shall exceed five years unless such contract has been renewed pursuant to division (E) of this section.	201 202 203 204
(14) The governing authority of the school, which shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of the contract;	205 206
(15) A financial plan detailing an estimated school budget for each year of the period of the contract and specifying the total estimated per pupil expenditure amount for each such year.	207 208 209
(16) Requirements and procedures regarding the disposition of employees of the school in the event the contract is terminated or not renewed pursuant to section 3314.07 of the Revised Code;	210 211 212 213
(17) Whether the school is to be created by converting all or part of an existing public school or educational service center building or is to be a new start-up school, and if it is a converted public school or service center building, specification of any duties or responsibilities of an employer that the board of education or service center governing board that operated the school or building before conversion is	214 215 216 217 218 219 220



delegating to the governing authority of the community school	221
with respect to all or any specified group of employees provided	222
the delegation is not prohibited by a collective bargaining	223
agreement applicable to such employees;	224
(18) Provisions establishing procedures for resolving	225
disputes or differences of opinion between the sponsor and the	226
governing authority of the community school;	227
(19) A provision requiring the governing authority to	228
adopt a policy regarding the admission of students who reside	229
outside the district in which the school is located. That policy	230
shall comply with the admissions procedures specified in	231
sections 3314.06 and 3314.061 of the Revised Code and, at the	232
sole discretion of the authority, shall do one of the following:	233
(a) Prohibit the enrollment of students who reside outside	234
the district in which the school is located;	235
(b) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in	236
districts adjacent to the district in which the school is	237
located;	238
(c) Permit the enrollment of students who reside in any	239
other district in the state.	240
(20) A provision recognizing the authority of the	241
department to take over the sponsorship of the school in	242
accordance with the provisions of division (C) of section	243
3314.015 of the Revised Code;	244
(21) A provision recognizing the sponsor's authority to	245
assume the operation of a school under the conditions specified	246
in division (B) of section 3314.073 of the Revised Code;	247
(22) A provision recognizing both of the following:	248

(a) The authority of public health and safety officials to 249  
inspect the facilities of the school and to order the facilities 250  
closed if those officials find that the facilities are not in 251  
compliance with health and safety laws and regulations; 252

(b) The authority of the department as the community 253  
school oversight body to suspend the operation of the school 254  
under section 3314.072 of the Revised Code if the department has 255  
evidence of conditions or violations of law at the school that 256  
pose an imminent danger to the health and safety of the school's 257  
students and employees and the sponsor refuses to take such 258  
action. 259

(23) A description of the learning opportunities that will 260  
be offered to students including both classroom-based and non- 261  
classroom-based learning opportunities that is in compliance 262  
with criteria for student participation established by the 263  
department under division (H) (2) of section 3314.08 of the 264  
Revised Code; 265

(24) The school will comply with sections 3302.04 and 266  
3302.041 of the Revised Code, except that any action required to 267  
be taken by a school district pursuant to those sections shall 268  
be taken by the sponsor of the school. 269

(25) Beginning in the 2006-2007 school year, the school 270  
will open for operation not later than the thirtieth day of 271  
September each school year, unless the mission of the school as 272  
specified under division (A) (2) of this section is solely to 273  
serve dropouts. In its initial year of operation, if the school 274  
fails to open by the thirtieth day of September, or within one 275  
year after the adoption of the contract pursuant to division (D) 276  
of section 3314.02 of the Revised Code if the mission of the 277  
school is solely to serve dropouts, the contract shall be void. 278

(26) Whether the school's governing authority is planning to seek designation for the school as a STEM school equivalent under section 3326.032 of the Revised Code;	279 280 281
(27) That the school's attendance and participation policies will be available for public inspection;	282 283
(28) That the school's attendance and participation records shall be made available to the department, auditor of state, and school's sponsor to the extent permitted under and in accordance with the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974," 88 Stat. 571, 20 U.S.C. 1232g, as amended, and any regulations promulgated under that act, and section 3319.321 of the Revised Code;	284 285 286 287 288 289 290
(29) If a school operates using the blended learning model, as defined in section 3301.079 of the Revised Code, all of the following information:	291 292 293
(a) An indication of what blended learning model or models will be used;	294 295
(b) A description of how student instructional needs will be determined and documented;	296 297
(c) The method to be used for determining competency, granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level;	298 299
(d) The school's attendance requirements, including how the school will document participation in learning opportunities;	300 301 302
(e) A statement describing how student progress will be monitored;	303 304
(f) A statement describing how private student data will be protected;	305 306

(g) A description of the professional development activities that will be offered to teachers.	307 308
(30) A provision requiring that all moneys the school's operator loans to the school, including facilities loans or cash flow assistance, must be accounted for, documented, and bear interest at a fair market rate;	309 310 311 312
(31) A provision requiring that, if the governing authority contracts with an attorney, accountant, or entity specializing in audits, the attorney, accountant, or entity shall be independent from the operator with which the school has contracted.	313 314 315 316 317
(32) A provision requiring the governing authority to adopt an enrollment and attendance policy that requires a student's parent to notify the community school in which the student is enrolled when there is a change in the location of the parent's or student's primary residence.	318 319 320 321 322
(33) A provision requiring the governing authority to adopt a student residence and address verification policy for students enrolling in or attending the school.	323 324 325
(B) The community school shall also submit to the sponsor a comprehensive plan for the school. The plan shall specify the following:	326 327 328
(1) The process by which the governing authority of the school will be selected in the future;	329 330
(2) The management and administration of the school;	331
(3) If the community school is a currently existing public school or educational service center building, alternative arrangements for current public school students who choose not	332 333 334

to attend the converted school and for teachers who choose not	335
to teach in the school or building after conversion;	336
(4) The instructional program and educational philosophy	337
of the school;	338
(5) Internal financial controls.	339
When submitting the plan under this division, the school	340
shall also submit copies of all policies and procedures	341
regarding internal financial controls adopted by the governing	342
authority of the school.	343
(C) A contract entered into under section 3314.02 of the	344
Revised Code between a sponsor and the governing authority of a	345
community school may provide for the community school governing	346
authority to make payments to the sponsor, which is hereby	347
authorized to receive such payments as set forth in the contract	348
between the governing authority and the sponsor. The total	349
amount of such payments for monitoring, oversight, and technical	350
assistance of the school shall not exceed three per cent of the	351
total amount of payments for operating expenses that the school	352
receives from the state.	353
(D) The contract shall specify the duties of the sponsor	354
which shall be in accordance with the written agreement entered	355
into with the department under division (B) of section 3314.015	356
of the Revised Code and shall include the following:	357
(1) Monitor the community school's compliance with all	358
laws applicable to the school and with the terms of the	359
contract;	360
(2) Monitor and evaluate the academic and fiscal	361
performance and the organization and operation of the community	362
school on at least an annual basis;	363

(3) Provide technical assistance to the community school 364  
in complying with laws applicable to the school and terms of the 365  
contract; 366

(4) Take steps to intervene in the school's operation to 367  
correct problems in the school's overall performance, declare 368  
the school to be on probationary status pursuant to section 369  
3314.073 of the Revised Code, suspend the operation of the 370  
school pursuant to section 3314.072 of the Revised Code, or 371  
terminate the contract of the school pursuant to section 3314.07 372  
of the Revised Code as determined necessary by the sponsor; 373

(5) Have in place a plan of action to be undertaken in the 374  
event the community school experiences financial difficulties or 375  
closes prior to the end of a school year. 376

(E) Upon the expiration of a contract entered into under 377  
this section, the sponsor of a community school may, with the 378  
approval of the governing authority of the school, renew that 379  
contract for a period of time determined by the sponsor, but not 380  
ending earlier than the end of any school year, if the sponsor 381  
finds that the school's compliance with applicable laws and 382  
terms of the contract and the school's progress in meeting the 383  
academic goals prescribed in the contract have been 384  
satisfactory. Any contract that is renewed under this division 385  
remains subject to the provisions of sections 3314.07, 3314.072, 386  
and 3314.073 of the Revised Code. 387

(F) If a community school fails to open for operation 388  
within one year after the contract entered into under this 389  
section is adopted pursuant to division (D) of section 3314.02 390  
of the Revised Code or permanently closes prior to the 391  
expiration of the contract, the contract shall be void and the 392  
school shall not enter into a contract with any other sponsor. A 393

school shall not be considered permanently closed because the 394  
operations of the school have been suspended pursuant to section 395  
3314.072 of the Revised Code. 396

**Sec. 3326.11.** Each science, technology, engineering, and 397  
mathematics school established under this chapter and its 398  
governing body shall comply with sections 9.90, 9.91, 109.65, 399  
121.22, 149.43, 2151.357, 2151.421, 2313.19, 2921.42, 2921.43, 400  
3301.0714, 3301.0715, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.14, 401  
3313.15, 3313.16, 3313.18, 3313.201, 3313.26, 3313.472, 402  
3313.473, 3313.474, 3313.48, 3313.481, 3313.482, 3313.50, 403  
3313.539, 3313.5310, 3313.5318, 3313.5319, 3313.608, 3313.6012, 404  
3313.6013, 3313.6014, 3313.6020, 3313.6021, 3313.6023, 405  
3313.6024, 3313.6026, 3313.6028, 3313.6029, 3313.61, 3313.611, 406  
3313.614, 3313.615, 3313.617, 3313.618, 3313.6114, 3313.643, 407  
3313.648, 3313.6411, 3313.6413, 3313.66, 3313.661, 3313.662, 408  
3313.666, 3313.667, 3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.6612, 409  
3313.67, 3313.671, 3313.672, 3313.673, 3313.69, 3313.71, 410  
3313.716, 3313.717, 3313.718, 3313.719, 3313.7112, 3313.7117, 411  
3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.80, 3313.801, 3313.814, 3313.816, 412  
3313.817, 3313.818, 3313.819, 3313.86, 3313.89, 3313.96, 413  
3319.073, 3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.0812, 3319.21, 3319.238, 414  
3319.318, 3319.32, 3319.321, 3319.324, 3319.35, 3319.39, 415  
3319.391, 3319.393, 3319.41, 3319.45, 3319.46, 3319.90, 416  
3319.614, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3320.04, 3321.01, 3321.041, 417  
3321.05, 3321.13, 3321.14, 3321.141, 3321.17, 3321.18, 3321.19, 418  
3321.191, 3322.20, 3322.24, 3323.251, 3327.10, 4111.17, 4113.52, 419  
5502.262, 5502.703, and 5705.391 and Chapters 102., 117., 1347., 420  
2744., 3307., 3309., 3365., 3742., 4112., 4123., 4141., and 421  
4167. of the Revised Code as if it were a school district. 422

**Sec. 3328.24.** A college-preparatory boarding school 423  
established under this chapter and its board of trustees shall 424

comply with sections 102.02, 3301.0710, 3301.0711, 3301.0712, 425  
3301.0714, 3301.0729, 3301.948, 3302.037, 3313.474, 3313.5318, 426  
3313.5319, 3313.6013, 3313.6021, 3313.6023, 3313.6024, 427  
3313.6026, 3313.6029, 3313.617, 3313.618, 3313.6114, 3313.6411, 428  
3313.6413, 3313.668, 3313.669, 3313.6610, 3313.6612, 3313.717, 429  
3313.7112, 3313.7117, 3313.721, 3313.753, 3313.89, 3319.073, 430  
3319.077, 3319.078, 3319.318, 3319.324, 3319.39, 3319.391, 431  
3319.393, 3319.46, 3320.01, 3320.02, 3320.03, 3320.04, 3323.251, 432  
and 5502.262, and Chapter 3365. of the Revised Code as if the 433  
school were a school district and the school's board of trustees 434  
were a district board of education. 435

**Sec. 4112.01.** (A) As used in this chapter: 436

(1) "Person" includes one or more individuals, 437  
partnerships, associations, organizations, corporations, legal 438  
representatives, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, 439  
and other organized groups of persons. "Person" also includes, 440  
but is not limited to, any owner, lessor, assignor, builder, 441  
manager, broker, salesperson, appraiser, agent, employee, 442  
lending institution, and the state and all political 443  
subdivisions, authorities, agencies, boards, and commissions of 444  
the state. 445

(2) "Employer" means the state, any political subdivision 446  
of the state, or a person employing four or more persons within 447  
the state, and any agent of the state, political subdivision, or 448  
person. 449

(3) "Employee" means an individual employed by any 450  
employer but does not include any individual employed in the 451  
domestic service of any person. 452

(4) "Labor organization" includes any organization that 453



exists, in whole or in part, for the purpose of collective 454  
bargaining or of dealing with employers concerning grievances, 455  
terms or conditions of employment, or other mutual aid or 456  
protection in relation to employment. 457

(5) "Employment agency" includes any person regularly 458  
undertaking, with or without compensation, to procure 459  
opportunities to work or to procure, recruit, refer, or place 460  
employees. 461

(6) "Commission" means the Ohio civil rights commission 462  
created by section 4112.03 of the Revised Code. 463

(7) "Discriminate" includes segregate or separate. 464

(8) "Unlawful discriminatory practice" means any act 465  
prohibited by section 4112.02, 4112.021, or 4112.022 of the 466  
Revised Code. 467

(9) "Place of public accommodation" means any inn, 468  
restaurant, eating house, barbershop, public conveyance by air, 469  
land, or water, theater, store, other place for the sale of 470  
merchandise, or any other place of public accommodation or 471  
amusement of which the accommodations, advantages, facilities, 472  
or privileges are available to the public. 473

(10) "Housing accommodations" includes any building or 474  
structure, or portion of a building or structure, that is used 475  
or occupied or is intended, arranged, or designed to be used or 476  
occupied as the home residence, dwelling, dwelling unit, or 477  
sleeping place of one or more individuals, groups, or families 478  
whether or not living independently of each other; and any 479  
vacant land offered for sale or lease. "Housing accommodations" 480  
also includes any housing accommodations held or offered for 481  
sale or rent by a real estate broker, salesperson, or agent, by 482

any other person pursuant to authorization of the owner, by the 483  
owner, or by the owner's legal representative. 484

(11) "Restrictive covenant" means any specification 485  
limiting the transfer, rental, lease, or other use of any 486  
housing accommodations because of race, color, religion, sex, 487  
military status, familial status, national origin, disability, 488  
or ancestry, or any limitation based upon affiliation with or 489  
approval by any person, directly or indirectly, employing race, 490  
color, religion, sex, military status, familial status, national 491  
origin, disability, or ancestry as a condition of affiliation or 492  
approval. 493

(12) "Burial lot" means any lot for the burial of deceased 494  
persons within any public burial ground or cemetery, including, 495  
but not limited to, cemeteries owned and operated by municipal 496  
corporations, townships, or companies or associations 497  
incorporated for cemetery purposes. 498

(13) "Disability" means a physical or mental impairment 499  
that substantially limits one or more major life activities, 500  
including the functions of caring for one's self, performing 501  
manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, 502  
learning, and working; a record of a physical or mental 503  
impairment; or being regarded as having a physical or mental 504  
impairment. 505

(14) Except as otherwise provided in section 4112.021 of 506  
the Revised Code, "age" means an individual aged forty years or 507  
older. 508

(15) "Familial status" means either of the following: 509

(a) One or more individuals who are under eighteen years 510  
of age and who are domiciled with a parent or guardian having 511

legal custody of the individual or domiciled, with the written 512  
permission of the parent or guardian having legal custody, with 513  
a designee of the parent or guardian; 514

(b) Any person who is pregnant or in the process of 515  
securing legal custody of any individual who is under eighteen 516  
years of age. 517

(16) (a) Except as provided in division (A) (16) (b) of this 518  
section, "physical or mental impairment" includes any of the 519  
following: 520

(i) Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic 521  
disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the 522  
following body systems: neurological; musculoskeletal; special 523  
sense organs; respiratory, including speech organs; 524  
cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genito-urinary; hemic 525  
and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; 526

(ii) Any mental or psychological disorder, including, but 527  
not limited to, intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, 528  
emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities; 529

(iii) Diseases and conditions, including, but not limited 530  
to, orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, 531  
cerebral palsy, autism, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple 532  
sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, human 533  
immunodeficiency virus infection, intellectual disability, 534  
emotional illness, drug addiction, and alcoholism. 535

(b) "Physical or mental impairment" does not include any 536  
of the following: 537

(i) Homosexuality and bisexuality; 538

(ii) Transvestism, transsexualism, pedophilia, 539

exhibitionism, voyeurism, gender identity disorders not	540
resulting from physical impairments, or other sexual behavior	541
disorders;	542
(iii) Compulsive gambling, kleptomania, or pyromania;	543
(iv) Psychoactive substance use disorders resulting from	544
the current illegal use of a controlled substance or the current	545
use of alcoholic beverages.	546
(17) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit of residence for	547
a family of one or more persons.	548
(18) "Common use areas" means rooms, spaces, or elements	549
inside or outside a building that are made available for the use	550
of residents of the building or their guests, and includes, but	551
is not limited to, hallways, lounges, lobbies, laundry rooms,	552
refuse rooms, mail rooms, recreational areas, and passageways	553
among and between buildings.	554
(19) "Public use areas" means interior or exterior rooms	555
or spaces of a privately or publicly owned building that are	556
made available to the general public.	557
(20) "Controlled substance" has the same meaning as in	558
section 3719.01 of the Revised Code.	559
(21) "Disabled tenant" means a tenant or prospective	560
tenant who is a person with a disability.	561
(22) "Military status" means a person's status in "service	562
in the uniformed services" as defined in section 5923.05 of the	563
Revised Code.	564
(23) "Aggrieved person" includes both of the following:	565
(a) Any person who claims to have been injured by any	566

unlawful discriminatory practice described in division (H) of 567  
section 4112.02 of the Revised Code; 568

(b) Any person who believes that the person will be 569  
injured by any unlawful discriminatory practice described in 570  
division (H) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code that is 571  
about to occur. 572

(24) "Unlawful discriminatory practice relating to 573  
employment" means both of the following: 574

(a) An unlawful discriminatory practice that is prohibited 575  
by division (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), or (F) of section 4112.02 576  
of the Revised Code; 577

(b) An unlawful discriminatory practice that is prohibited 578  
by division (I) or (J) of section 4112.02 of the Revised Code 579  
that is related to employment. 580

(25) "Notice of right to sue" means a notice sent by the 581  
commission to a person who files a charge under section 4112.051 582  
of the Revised Code that states that the person who filed the 583  
charge may bring a civil action related to the charge pursuant 584  
to section 4112.052 or 4112.14 of the Revised Code, in 585  
accordance with section 4112.052 of the Revised Code. 586

(26) "Race" includes traits associated with an 587  
individual's race, including hair texture and protective hair 588  
styles, such as braids, locks, and twists. 589

(B) For the purposes of divisions (A) to (F) of section 590  
4112.02 of the Revised Code, the terms "because of sex" and "on 591  
the basis of sex" include, but are not limited to, because of or 592  
on the basis of pregnancy, any illness arising out of and 593  
occurring during the course of a pregnancy, childbirth, or 594  
related medical conditions. Women affected by pregnancy, 595

childbirth, or related medical conditions shall be treated the 596  
same for all employment-related purposes, including receipt of 597  
benefits under fringe benefit programs, as other persons not so 598  
affected but similar in their ability or inability to work, and 599  
nothing in division (B) of section 4111.17 of the Revised Code 600  
shall be interpreted to permit otherwise. This division shall 601  
not be construed to require an employer to pay for health 602  
insurance benefits for abortion, except where the life of the 603  
mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or 604  
except where medical complications have arisen from the 605  
abortion, provided that nothing in this division precludes an 606  
employer from providing abortion benefits or otherwise affects 607  
bargaining agreements in regard to abortion. 608

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3314.03, 3326.11, 609  
3328.24, and 4112.01 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 610

**Section 3.** This act shall be known as the Creating a 611  
Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act. 612

**Section 4.** The General Assembly, applying the principle 613  
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 614  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 615  
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 616  
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 617  
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 618  
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 619  
as presented in this act: 620

Section 3314.03 of the Revised Code as amended by H.B. 8, 621  
H.B. 214, H.B. 250, S.B. 168, S.B. 104, S.B. 208, and S.B. 234, 622  
all of the 135th General Assembly. 623

Section 3326.11 of the Revised Code as amended by H.B. 8, 624

H.B. 47, H.B. 214, S.B. 104, S.B. 168, S.B. 208, and S.B. 234,	625
all of the 135th General Assembly.	626
Section 3328.24 of the Revised Code as amended by both	627
S.B. 208 and S.B. 234 of the 135th General Assembly.	628