

HB 4107 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Judiciary

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Meeting Dates: 2/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Declares refusal to accept United States coins or currency, or discrimination or distinction for offering coins or currency by a place of public accommodation an unlawful practice. Allows refusal of currency in \$50 or \$100 bills or of coins when coins total \$100 or more. Exempts places of accommodation that are owned and maintained by public bodies, farmers' markets, roadside stands, mobile food units, gas stations, commercial activities within a restricted area of an airport, retail transactions occurring by phone, mail, or internet, or transactions requiring a money deposit or signing of a rental agreement. Includes physical characteristics, such as hair type and hair style, within the definition of race for purposes of school discrimination, school district participation in interscholastic organization activities, and unlawful employment practices. Requires interscholastic organization with which school districts contract to implement policies prohibiting discrimination based on race, color, or national origin. Prohibits school or employer dress codes from disproportionately impacting members of a protected class. Allows civil action under ORS 659A.885 or through complaint to the Bureau of Labor and Industries.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), in 2017, 6.5 percent, or 8.4 million households in the US did not have a bank-issued debit or credit card. A 2019 study by the Federal Reserve's Cash Product Office found that consumers used cash in 26 percent of transactions, with nearly 50 percent of all payments under \$10 being in cash. But in some regions and commercial sectors, businesses refuse cash payments.

The Create a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair (CROWN) Act prohibits discrimination based on hair style and texture. First enacted in California in 2019, it has been adopted by New York, and New Jersey, several municipalities and counties, and is before the US Congress and twenty states.

House Bill 4107 prohibits discrimination in two ways: 1) it makes refusal to accept cash an unlawful practice; and 2) it includes physical characteristics, such as hair type and hair style, within the definition of race in school discrimination policies, interscholastic organization activities, and in unlawful employment practices.