

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 54th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB2873
Version:	Engrossed
Request Number:	NA
Author:	Rep. Tom Newell
Date:	5/05/2014
Impact:	Not Required

Research Analysis

HB2873 prohibits public colleges and universities from enforcing policies that would discriminate against or deny a religious student association any benefits available to any other student association because the association requires its members to:

- adhere to association's sincerely held religious beliefs;
- comply with the association's sincere religious observance requirements;
- comply with the association's sincere religious standards of conduct; or
- be committed to furthering the association's religious missions.

The measure also allows the members of a religious student organization, who claim that their exercise of religion has been substantially burdened, to use the violation as a claim or defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding against the university or college. Substantially burdened means any action that constrains or inhibits conduct or expression that reflects a student's sincerely held religious beliefs, denies a student an opportunity to engage in religious activities or pressures a student to engage in conduct or expression contrary to a sincerely held religious belief.

Prepared By: Quyen Do

Fiscal Analysis

Not required.

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Other Considerations

None.