

Submitter:	Greg Carradine
On Behalf Of:	David Douglas High school
Committee:	House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3807

Hi my name is,

I coach football and basketball at David Douglas High School. I've been apart of this district for 26 years. This past football season our program experienced a great deal of racial remarks directed towards our football team. It started off this first week of the season when Monkey noises were directed towards our team bus after a contest. Fast forward to week 2 vs Rex Putnam one of my players came off the field with tears in his eyes because he was called the N-word. A few weeks later we had a Jv contest vs Adrienne Nelson which resulted in one of our players being called the N-word. As a coach I take tremendous pride in making sure my players have a safe and fair playing field. That Friday our varsity team played Nelson and came was hurled into our crowd during halftime. After addressing the issue and wanting to hold those involved accountable we had another run in with Barlow high school that resulted in one of our players being called the N-word. The Barlow player admitted to saying it and did receive consequences. This year of coaching was very challenging for me, probably one of the toughest years I've had. I have to do a lot of mental preparation for my players so they felt comfortable enough to compete. Imagine telling your players "I will be sure this never happens again" and it continues to happen for weeks?! We are taking the fun away from sporting contest and kids are worrying about everything else instead of being able to focus on the contest. As a coach, A as father and as a person of color I support this 100 percent!