

HB 480 -- CRONKITE NEW VOICES ACT

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

This bill establishes the "Cronkite New Voices Act", which provides that in both public high schools and public institutions of higher education a student journalist has the right to exercise freedom of speech and of the press in school-sponsored media.

The bill permits school districts and student-media advisors to regulate the number, length, frequency, and format of school-sponsored media. School districts must adopt a written freedom of the press policy that includes reasonable provisions for the time, place, and manner of student expression. The policy may also restrict speech that is offensive or threatening.

The bill forbids school districts from prior restraint of school-sponsored media except in circumstances specified in the bill.

This bill is the same as HB 2317 (2020) and HB 743 (2019).