Honorable Members of Education Committee,

My name is William Bao. I am a 12 year old student lives in East Lyme. I am writing to you to testify in regard of bill No. SB359 “Prohibiting the Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic or Racial Subgroups in the Public School Information System”.

I support the original concept of “prohibiting educational institutions or other state agencies from mandatory collection and separation of data from students by subpopulations of national origin or ethnicity.” However, I am very concerned in regard of this portion of the current bill language “unless… collected uniformly across the entire population of students”. I believe the entire population shall not be subject to registry of ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin.

I am supporting the original concept because we should not be categorized by where my parents or grandparents came from. I was born and raised here. I am proud of my country, the United States of America. I see myself an American all the time. No matter where we originally come from or what skin color we have, we are living this country and trying to make it better. We are all Americans.

Please modify the bill language as to “no population of students shall be subject to data collection of ancestry nation of origin and ethnicity origin”.

Please vote for Bill SB359.

Sincerely,

William Bao
7th Grade
Blue Crab Kiva
East Lyme Middle School