Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Yong Deng, a resident of Unionville, CT. I am writing 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, we are 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 I support the concept that no one should be judged by their race or color. As an Asian immigrant, I always feel marginalized and am afraid of being regarded as not American enough. Particularly I do not want my children to have the same fear as me. I wish they will live in a country where people are not judged by their race or color but rather by their content of character.

I moved to this country to pursue my America dream because I believe this is the country where everyone is equally respected regardless of their race, because I believe this is the country where everyone can succeed if he/she works hard and because I believe this is the country where everyone is regarded as American but not by his/her ancestry nation of origin and ethnicity origin.

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.

Thank you very much.
Sincerely yours,

Yong Deng
3/4/2018