Dear Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Xueyan Dong. I reside in New Milford, CT and I am the owner of a software development and service company, IT Helps LLC. 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”.

My family and 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 part of the current bill language “unless ... collected uniformly across the entire population of students”. We believe the entire population shall not be subject to registry of ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin. We support the original concept because immigrants built The United States of America and the principle of this country is based on equality, not on ancestry immigration origin. Twenty years ago, my husband and myself were attracted to this country by the democracy and equality. Now, we both are proud citizen of The United States and are contributing to high tech industries. We immigrated into The United States, not because of our ancestry or ethnicity, but because this country provided our children and us equal opportunities in education, career, and living environment. No one suppose to treat us differently based on our skin color, ancestry, or accent in speech. Our children were born in the United States. Even though they have yellow skin color, but they never had a single doubt about their citizenship and equality among their peers regardless ancestry or ethnic origins. My children and we would all feel betrayed and tagged, if we have to register our ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin with any educational institution or state agency.

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.

We appreciate your efforts in working on bill SB359.

Sincerely,

Xueyan Dong

Home Phone: 860-799-8321
Address:
54 Boxwood Ln
New Milford
CT 06776