Re: Testimony In Regard of Bill No. SB359

Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Haibo Fan. 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 support the original wording because we don’t want to create an environment that judge students by stereotype or categorization by ancestry origin or their ethnicity. Throughout history, people had suffered in various ways due to registry of ancestry nation of origin and ethnic origin. We don’t ever want such policy/practices which most of the time may mean well, but can lead to discrimination and cause harm.

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,

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