When my daughter Katie was little, many times she asked me: Mom, am I Chinese or American? I always told her: you are born in this country, you are American. Chinese is your cultural heritage. Katie has grown up with this belief for years without any doubt. But now, she is confused.....

Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Della Fong, a business technologist living in Connecticut. I am writing to support and 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 came to USA about 20 years ago. My daughter Katie was born in this country. As I said, she has always been told that she is an American, educated with core American value systems. She also learns Chinese language and Chinese cultural at weekends, as for cultural enrichment. In her belief system, she is American, period. Where her ancestors came from has nothing to do with her American life. Now the proposal of disaggregation of students just based on their ancestor's background is simply tearing down her American belief systems.

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”. I believe the entire population shall not be subject to registry of ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin. Please vote for bill SB359.

Thank you,

-Della
East Lyme, Connecticut
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