Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Michele Guo, residing in the town of Old Lyme CT. I’m a research scientist working in pharmaceutical development. 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 collecting disaggregated student data based on ethnicity promotes unfair education, leads to discrimination, and divides this great country.

We are all Americans. So are our children. They love this land where they were born and grow up. My 4th grade daughter is a class representative and constantly thinks how to make her class and her school a great place for ALL of her classmates and schoolmates. The potential labeling of her being a subgroup of Asian and the data collected from there can only separate her from the community she has been striving to help. I found it’s extremely difficult to explain to her why we need this Bill at the first place, why would people even think about profiling them at school targeting at Asian group not any other races, what the children profiling data will be used for, resources redistribution among the Asian subgroups? What does this country get out from that? Isn’t that a pure political motivated or what?

In addition, the disaggregated data collection will be confusing and pointless for the 2nd generations or the 3rd, 4th, and so on, generations to come.

Please focus on uniting this country not dividing her.

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.

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