Honorable Members of Education Committee:

We are 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”.

We 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”. We believe the entire population shall not be subject to registry of ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin.

We are supporting the original concept, because every Child of America is an American. Even through their parents may came from different countries as immigrants, these children should not be labeled as perpetual foreigners in name of data. “Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic or Racial” may make these children more susceptible to discrimination from the stigmatization of being “another kind of American”. As we know from our own son and from other friends, some Chinese students had experienced some kinds of discrimination from other kids, such as being labeled as ‘Chinese’, which significantly affected their social activities in school. We should prevent from creating an environment that judge students by stereotype or categorization based on where their family came from or their ethnicity.

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 for your support!

Sincerely yours,

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