Honorable Members of Education Committee,

My name is Minnie Liu, residing in Norwalk, CT. I am writing to testify in regard of bill number S.B.359 “Prohibiting the Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic or Racial Subgroups in the Public School Information System”.

I am supporting the original concept because every child in the U.S. is created equally as “American’s new hope”, no matter where their ancestor is from and what their culture heritage is. They should never be segregated into ethnic or racial subgroups intentionally or unintentionally. There is already enough bullying in the campus that we adults are trying so hard to help our children cope with. It would be really helpful if we don’t add another new method for people to “pick on” the different kid and make him/her feel not accepted in his/her own country. America is a melting pot and one of its many greatness is the ability to attract talents from all over the world to call it a home. As a first generation of immigrant, I recently bought my dream house in CT as I am emotionally attached to the state and really see the potential of our state despite all the headline news. I hope my toddler can find his root in our lovely state and have a great experience knowing he will be completely accepted just like everyone else without being “tagged”. Like what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. used to say: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.” I also hope my toddler will never be judged by where he is from, but by the content of his character.
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, I am also 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.

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.

Please feel free to contact me at shlxm3@gmail.com should you have any questions. Thank you very much for all your hard work to get CT back on track!

Sincerely,
Minnie Liu