Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Lei Song, a resident in Orange, CT. I am writing to testify regarding 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 sub populations of national origin or ethnicity”.

Nonetheless, I am very concerned with regard to the current bill language “unless … collected uniformly across the entire population of students”. I firmly believe that all Americans are entitled to public resources including public education resources on equal ground, and should not be discriminated against due to his/her ethnic origin.

I am supporting the original concept because I believe the country will only thrive based on a color blind culture. Any bill claiming to collect ethnic origin data is bounded to lead to discrimination and distortion in allocating public resources.

Please consider to 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. Highly appreciate your considerations!

Best Regards,

Lei Song