Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Xi Song, a resident of Waterford, Connecticut. I am writing to support Bill 359 “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 I am 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 came to the United States 19 years ago with a strong belief that this is the country of freedom and equal opportunity. I met my husband in graduate school and we settled down in New England to start our family. Our daughter was born here in the US and both my husband and I are naturalized citizens. We are all Americans and are proud of it. We work hard to support our family and to give back to our community. We serve and donate at our local church regularly. Our daughter, who is now a high schooler, does volunteer work fund-raising for local elementary schools. We are a part of this nation. We expect that people within this nation should be united, not segregated.

No person in US should be categorized based on their race or ethnicity. It is against the fundamental values of this great country.

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 in advance for your favorable consideration,

Xi Song, MD
Sr. Scientist
Pfizer Inc.