Honorable Members of Education Committee,

My name is Yingzi Wang, currently a federal employee and CT resident. I am writing to testify in regard of Raised S. B. No. 359 (Session Year 2018) “An Act Prohibiting the Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic Subgroups in the Public School Information System”.

In Clause (A) (after subclause A(v)) I read: **Such data relating to students shall not be disaggregated by ethnic subgroups** unless such disaggregated student data is (I) required under federal law, or (II) collected uniformly for all ethnic subgroups among the entire student population in the state”. Also, in “Statement of Purpose” (at the end of the bill) I read: **To prohibit the collection of disaggregated student data on specific ethnic subgroups** unless such student data is required by federal law or collected uniformly across the entire population of students”.

I support the concept of “prohibiting educational institutions or other state agencies from mandatory collection and separation of data from students or individuals by subpopulations of national origin or ethnicity”. I support the statement without any condition, and I support the statement for all individuals, no matter what groups or subgroups. I am very concerned in regard of portions of the current bill language which I underline above: “unless such disaggregated student data is … entire student population in the state”, and “unless such student data is required… uniformly across the entire population of students”. I believe that the entire population shall not be subject to registry of ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin.

Our students go to their schools to be educated as good citizens of the country in one day. They should feel that they are equal during their whole learning phase. They should be in safe mind that what they are learning and sharing in classrooms and how they identify themselves has nothing to do with the origin or ethnicity of their parents or their families. This is the basic right of our students going into the educational system.

Once at the playground of my younger son’s elementary school (it was a fall semester returning to school celebration event for the whole school and all families), a boy shouted at my son” “go back to China!” I was shocked and felt sorry that the boy did not realize at his age that everyone is contributing to the country by no difference and everyone is equally entitled to his/her rights. I wish the boy now understand that all students in the state should be treated equally and their data are only collected and used in meaningful way. I finished my higher education in U.S., became a citizen and work as other parents. My kids are born in U.S., are confident with their American identity and care all matters in the country. When they and other students need help or aids, no matter educationally, psychologically, or financially, the system has developed the means to assist them. There is no use to make data collection of ancestry nation of origin and ethnicity origin on them. The only outcome of such data collection is to segregate people artificially and unfairly.

Please modify the bill language as “No population of students shall be subject to data collection of ancestry nation of origin or ethnicity origin”. Please vote for bill SB359 with such statement.

With my best regards,

Yingzi Wang
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