Honorable Members of Education Committee,

My name is Yonghua Yang, a resident of East Lyme, Connecticut. I am 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.”

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, we are 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.

The notion that “All men are created equal” brought me to this great country 11 years ago. In this land, if you work hard, whatever the ethnicity is, everybody has the equal opportunities to realize their dreams. We call this American dreams. I too would love to help people who need help. But who need help should not be determined by ethnicity. Profiling leads to horrible discrimination. This is why I am strongly supporting legislation that bans labelling kids as perpetual foreigners in name of data collection.

Please modify the bill’s wording to, “No population of students shall be subject to data collection of ancestry or nation of origin and ethnicity origin”. Please vote for bill SB359.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Yonghua Yang