Honorable Members of Education Committee,

Hi, I am Lily Yi, a student from Norwich, CT. I am writing to testify regarding the bill No. SB 359: “Prohibiting the Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic or Racial Subgroups in the Public School Information System”.

I support the original concept of “prohibition educational institutions of other state agencies from mandatory collection and separation of data from students by subpopulations of national origin of 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 of ethnicity origin.

I am supporting the original concept because all students should be treated equally regardless of their race. To be honest, I was so shocked, disappointed, and even a bit embarrassed in America’s government to suggest a law like this. I genuinely believed America always promoted equality for all races. If we really have equality for all races, then we should not have any laws concerning any races. If you are being accepted into any schools, careers, or anything, you should be judged by how hard you try and how that effort shows in your work. Race should have absolutely nothing to do with education.

We as Americans should not attempt to atone for mistakes done in the past and overlook how it affects other races. Instead, correct the mistake, make sure it never happens again, and proceed forward.

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”. I know America is trying to encourage more diversity in everything, but passing this law is truly not the way to do so. Please vote for bill SB359. Thank you.

Let America be true,

Lily Yi

66 Alice Street, Norwich, CT

860-287-4416