Supporting SB 359 “Prohibiting the Disaggregation of Student Data by Ethnic or Racial Subgroups in the Public School Information System”

March 7, 2018

Honorable Members of Education Committee:

My name is Yuhua Zhang, a resident of Woodbridge, CT and a chemist. 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.

I am supporting the original concept because I don’t want my son who was born and raised in the United States to be profiled as another kind of American and be judged by stereotype based on my national origin. My son, like every child of America, is an American.

As an immigrant who has been living and working in the United States for about 15 years, I am supporting the original concept because I believe that the United States-a country of immigrants is a land of equal opportunity for all regardless of one’s ancestry immigration nation of origin or ethnicity origin.

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 for your time.

Sincerely,

Yuhua Zhang, Ph.D.
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