

Dear Members of the Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly:

My name is Angeli Arevalo, I am a student at Wilbur Cross High School from New Haven and I am a member of the Citywide Youth Coalition. I support Bill 7082 with SEJ'S amendments. This bill is important to me because being a student of color and being taught history by white teachers and them not being able to to acknowledge what African Americans have gone through is truly troubling. On top of that they never tell the full story when it comes to American history. We are learning a white washed version of history that is leaving out the real stories of so many people. It is important to know that we will always find out the true history sooner or later which is sad that we aren't doing that learning in our classrooms. I got involved with the Citywide Youth Coalition through their summer program collaboration with Connecticut students for a dream. I am grateful for these organizations because they have allowed me to learn the history of racism and race in the united states which we should be learning in our classrooms. If this bill is passed it should definitely require teachers to attend a Undoing-Racism training that will help them undo their own biases before teaching this course. This bill being passed means that people will learn real American History. This also means that people such as whites will understand race and racism better than we think we do.

. We Are Calling For:

1. The bill to require The History of Race and The History of Racism in the United States in the CT curriculum
2. Required racial bias trainings for social studies teachers and administrators
3. the creation of a curriculum-building Committee within the State Dept of Ed that would include teachers, experts on critical race theory, and students

Why include The History of Race and The History of Racism in the United States?

Including this additional content will help students learn:

1. African American history = American history
2. The history of the creation of the concepts of "race," whiteness, and anti-Blackness
3. The role racism played in the formation of the United States
4. about their ethnicities and countries of origin, and how their ethnicities came to fit in the American conception of race

AND will help us ensure that the delivery of the content is effective, high-quality, and consistent with the vision of the law and the needs of our constituents.

Thank you for your time,

*Angeli Arevalo*