

Dear Members of the Education Committee:

March 4, 2019

My name is Lindsey Bauer and I am an educator in the New Haven Public Schools. I am an eleven-year resident of Connecticut, parent of two young boys one of which attends Nathan Hale School in New Haven.

**I Support HB 7082 and SEJ's Proposed Amendments**

I write to express my emphatic support for HB 7082 and SEJ's proposed amendments to the bill, including:

1. The amendment of the bill language to include "The History of Race and The History of Racism in the United States" as required curricular content (in addition to "African American Studies");
2. Required racial bias trainings for social studies teachers and administrators;
3. The creation of a curriculum-building and Oversight Committee within the State Dept. of Ed that would include teachers, experts on critical race theory, and students.

No one should graduate from high school in CT without understanding the History of Race and Racism, African American history, and the essential truth that African American history *is* American history.

As an educator and a parent I am thrilled to see such legislation at the helm. It is imperative that we do a better job of telling history. It is imperative that we do a better job educating teachers on racial bias. I work in a school in New Haven where the majority of students does not reflect the racial make up of their teachers there is a disconnect. There is lack of understanding. There is a painful gap in the curriculum, which doesn't reflect the true history of the United States and that needs to change. African American history is the history of the United States and should no longer be elected only to those who attend university. We must do better for our public. We must do better for our future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Bauer

New Haven Connecticut