

Dear Sen. McCrory, Sen. Sanchez, Ranking Members, Vice-Chairs, and distinguished Members of the Education Committee:

My name is Lisa Bress. I taught for 31 years in New York City and CT public schools as an elementary and special education teacher. I am writing in support of HB7082, An Act Concerning the Inclusion of African-American Studies in the Public School Curriculum.

I recently came across this quote “Knowing the Past opens the door to the future”. That is why it’s very important to pass this Bill in support of including African-American Studies in the Public School Curriculum. It’s time to move beyond the specific teaching of a few lessons during Black History Month in February. African American history is American history and should be integrated all year throughout the curriculum.

In this polarizing and exclusionary national political climate, it is more important than ever to include the historical contributions of under represented groups in our CT school curriculum. Please support his bill. CT children need to see that their Past, and their Future, is a priority in our state.

Lisa Bress  
Retired Teacher