

Testifier-John Brody

Adding African American studies to the American public-school systems is a great idea all round. The “ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM” will benefit society in the future if this is put in place. As racism and discrimination is still very prevalent in today’s society this act over time will hopefully correct that. Most of the time people who are discriminatory towards others who don’t look like them would feel differently about that person if they had more knowledge about their ways of life and not being so close minded. Right now, the public school’s system has very little if none curriculum teaching kids at a young age about other people’s cultures and beliefs. If this act is implemented, teaching African American Studies to kids all throughout the school system, it will help them “open their eyes” to the world around them and not be so close minded when it comes to other people’s beliefs or race. Human minds are most shapeable as children, meaning you can teach them things that will stay with them for the rest of their life’s. Children’s minds are like sponges they take in everything and store it to memory a lot better than older people. The end goal is to have everyone in the near future will be more open minded and hopefully less discriminatory towards people who don’t fit their race or have the same beliefs. This can also help with the gap between African American culture and the police. The gap exists because of the reason that some police officers just like some regular people have prejudices about African American cultures. Even if there was a program especially designed for police officers now that relates to African American studies it may close the gap between them. But this bill calls for classes in public schools which will help the up and coming police force to maybe be more open minded to other cultures especially African American culture. If the police officers can understand what they are going through and their cultures they’ll be able to have a stronger and more reliable connection with the community. There is no negative to adding this course to the public school systems, only positive results will come it just depends on when it’ll start to affect the discriminatory problem in the United States.