

Dear Bobby Gibson,

My name is Kenneth Fabian. I'm a student at University of New Haven, and I think that House Bill 7082 is a great step forward for public education. Throughout my life, as a Queer person of color, I've felt that there is an extremely narrow perception of what "Americans" should look and act like. This Bill would be monumental to the correction of the image of who is an isn't an American.

There's definitely still a certain image that is defined as the "American Dream". That is usually the typical Nuclear white family. While one can argue that was never an accurate depiction of Americans, one thing is certain: it's definitely not accurate now. Over time, especially in recent years, Americans have been questioning and challenging the identity of our country. That should be reflected in school curriculum, and this would be a huge step in the right direction.

I feel that it's very important that the timeline of African American History is shown accurately. I think it's often overshadowed just how recent the (beginning of) the civil rights movement took place, and how recent even the abolishing of slavery was. On top of that, it's important that when retrospectively viewing American history (in general, but especially in this context) that we are honest about the past of this country and condemn the wrongdoings of the past. Without learning from the past, we cannot create a better future.

Thank you,

Kenneth F.