

HB7082-Charles D.Mabry

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

My name is Charles D. Mabry. I am a student at Cooperative Arts and Humanities high school, I am from New Haven, and I am a member of SEJ. I support Bill 7082 with SEJ's amendments. This bill is important to me because I believe most students black or white should know about African American history.

Growing up in New Haven allows you to see the bigger picture of racism in America. With police brutality and drugs being a major problem, this is a perfect picture. But one that trumps them all is the lack of black education. This is a very important topic for the future generation so that they can learn about racism as well as their own culture. Most students are unaware of this especially if there is not a parent speaking about it. This can also help racism die so that we can finally have a generation black and white without it.

In my school, we just recently this year got an African American history class that I am a part of. It consists of the history of slaves, jim crow laws, the civil rights movement, and much more. I feel I have learned a lot in this class throughout the year and am glad I decided to take part in it. I'm also glad to have the opportunity because most other schools don't even offer the opportunity to take a class like this.

With the opportunity, I think more kids would be interested to take this class. It would be interesting to learn more about where you come from as an individual and as a group. It is sad that not more schools offer this as a required class, that's why I stand by SEJ. They want it to be a graduation requirement so more people have knowledge of their past to better themselves for the future.

Thank you for your time,

Charles D. Mabry