

## House Bill 7082

My name is Venetta MacBeth, and I would like to ask you to vote for House Bill 7082, An Act Concerning the Inclusion of African American Studies in Public School Curriculum.

I am a resident of Bloomfield, CT, and I was a student in the public school system. I graduated from Bloomfield High, in 1986. I remember having awesome History teachers throughout my schooling who could go on in detail about the American Revolution, WW I, and II, etc. However, even though I enjoyed History class, and the teachers personal stories about certain points in history. The extent of the curriculum on African-American History was not more than a few paragraphs on slavery, the Civil War, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, and the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The discussions were short, and the detail was scarce. I did not learn about much more until I was in my undergraduate studies. It was then that I learned, more about how much racism was a part of American History, and that there was so much more to learn about how much African-Americans have contributed to the development of this nation.

I believe that we need more diversity in the public school curriculum, not only in CT, but all over our nation, so that people of different races, and cultures, will be better able to communicate with each other, and this country will be an even better place to live. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Venetta MacBeth, LMSW