

To Whom it may concern,

.I would like to submit testimony on House Bill 7082 An Act concerning the Inclusion of African American Studies in the Public School Curriculum.

I live and work in Bloomfield CT, and through the work of our local early childhood collaborative and the generous funding of The Graustein Memorial Fund, I have had the privilege of attending a two day training on Undoing Racism put out by The Peoples Institute, where I learned many things that are not taught in history class. This training is so beneficial to everyone to see some of the real American History that is not taught in school. I think everyone should have access to this kind of information and it should be a requirement in school.

We have been inspired to continue this work, bringing information to groups in Bloomfield in the Café format, where facilitators were trained in another two day training to facilitate conversations and trainings. I believe education and information sharing are the tools we have to make the world a better place, and break down the barriers that still remain.

I believe that we need to educate everyone on our history so we can avoid repeating our mistakes of the past, and allow us to come together, doing the best for everyone.

Thank you.

Gail Nolan