SB 7083 AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCLUSION OF PUERTO RICAN AND LATINO STUDIES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Good morning Representative Sanchez, Senator McCrory, Representative McCarty, Senator Berthel, and esteemed members of the Education Committee:

My name is Geraldo Reyes and I represent the 75th District in Waterbury. I speak today in support of SB 7083 regarding the inclusion of Puerto Rican and Latino studies in school curriculums.

Recently our state has made great strides towards focusing on cultures and religions when it comes to our public schools history and social studies curriculums, a fact that I am incredibly proud of. The religious, ethnic, and social diversity of our state and country is one of the main reasons that so many of us are proud to live and work here. Continuing to celebrate our nation’s diversity and the heritage of a large portion of Connecticut’s population will only encourage our students to better understand and embrace the important cultural diversity of our state.

I urge the committee to put their full support behind this bill, as you have done with similar bills in the past. In our current political climate, it is more important than ever for our children to learn about different cultures and the benefits to our country and state that stem from our citizens rich historical diversity.

Thank you for your consideration.

Geraldo Reyes, Jr.