

Hello My Name is Douglas Mills. I'm here to testify in support of S.B. No. 1034

AN ACT CONCERNING MINORITY TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.

Committee on EDUCATION

I am a black MSW student it took me until the middle of my bachelors to understand how a minority social worker can have an impact on my community. even though I am not in education I do see the importance of this bill.

As an average black student growing up in the education system in Hamden. I have not experienced my first minority teacher that was not a language class until high school. Due to that absence, I had a mind set as a youth that becoming a teacher wasn't suited for someone like me.

As a kid the first sense of a structure power are you see outside of the home is in the classroom. Teacher and student. As a kid you understand the teacher is in charge. The teacher has power over the classroom. As a kid we look up to that power and strive to be that. It is important that we as a state continue to inspire our minority youth that they can truly fill that role.

One of main components of this raised bill that I am in support of is the outreach component in Sec. 3 A. To have a plan to inform and recruit high school students of the teaching profession is necessary for growth. We can not be stagnant and satisfied with the growth we have made within the state so far. We must continue to be a light and inspire our youth to be figures in our educational system.

Thank you for your time.