

Testimony in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 304
Education - Public Schools - Asian American History Curriculum Requirement

Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee February 3, 2022
1:00 PM ET

Presented to: Paul G. Pinsky, Chairman
By: Aiden Zhang

FAVORABLE

My name is Aiden Zhang, a student in the Howard County Public School System. I urge the Maryland General Assembly to accept SB304, which would require schools in Maryland to teach at least one unit on Asian American history in K-12 schools. Asian Americans have been an important part of building this great nation, but we are cast in the shadows most of the time. SB304 would help highlight our contributions and experiences.

Unfortunately, with a rise and anti-Asian hate crimes in the US, I feel that the general public has no knowledge on what Asian Americans went through when they first arrived. Education can help combat this.

SB304 can help combat racial stereotypes driven by the Covid-19 pandemic. We worked for the nation, fought for the nation, and died for the nation. Our history should be shared, not covered up. We can change the current status quo and ensure that Asian Americans are respected, and their achievements recognized.

Again, I strongly urge a favorable outcome on SB304.
Thank You,
Aiden Zhang