

**HOUSE BILL 875**  
**Commission on History, Culture, and Civics in Education**

**Feb 24, 2025**  
**Favorable**

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Theo Ng. I reside in District 14, and I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0875.

Across the country, lawmakers are restricting education that is accurate and reflects the contributions of and injustices faced by minority communities. Maryland has the opportunity to emerge as a leader in education and through this commission, provide recommendations to the State Board to adopt curriculum, standards, and programs that address historically dismissed subjects that students would not otherwise learn about.

Establishing a commission that reflects the gender, racial, ethnic, and geographic diversity of the state is a noble step toward ensuring that Maryland education also reflects such diversity. I personally graduated from Maryland's largest school district and went on to attend a public university in the State. It was not until pursuing my undergraduate degrees that I learned about issues and notable figures in Asian American history, the Chicano movement, and LGBTQ+ history. Students deserve to learn about **their own histories** in primary and secondary school. When lessons reflect diverse histories, students' education not only becomes more accurate, but also more engaging and relevant.

In conclusion, I respectfully urge this committee to return **a favorable report** of House Bill 875 to establish a commission on history, culture, and civics in education. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Theo Ng  
Brookeville, MD