

**Committees:** Ways and Means

**Testimony on:** HB1323 Education – Public Schools – Asian American History Teacher Professional Development and Resources

**Position:** Favorable

1 March 2025

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

I urge you to support HB1323, which enhances teacher professional development on Asian American curriculum in Maryland's K-12 public schools. This bill ensures educators have access to high-quality training from various organizations like the Smithsonian Institution, Teach AAPI, and The Asian American Education Project—providing them with the resources needed to teach a more inclusive and accurate curriculum.

Last year, over 20 students testified in support of this bill, yet it failed to pass. This year, with "sponsor testimony only," we cannot testify in Annapolis, but we refuse to be silenced. HB1323 is too important to let die again.

This bill strengthens our education system, supports our teachers, and ensures that all students see themselves reflected in their learning. I urge you to vote in favor of HB1323 and advocate for its passage.

Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,  
Yvonne So

VP Education, OCA DC