

HB 1059: State Department of Education - Asian American History - Accurate Instruction: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Education, Energy & the Environment Committee:

I am writing as a concerned resident of Maryland to strongly oppose **HB 1059**.

While I fully support the accurate, complete, and balanced teaching of **all** American history — including the contributions, struggles, and experiences of Asian Americans — I strongly oppose this bill for a simple reason: **Why single out one ethnic group for special state-mandated “accurate instruction” programs?**

All history should be taught accurately, without selective emphasis or curated materials for a specific ethnic group. Maryland’s history and social studies curriculum should present a comprehensive, fact-based account of our nation’s past that includes:

- The achievements and challenges of **all** ethnic, cultural, and religious groups
- European, African, Hispanic, Native American, and Asian contributions
- Both triumphs and failures in our shared history

By creating a dedicated program, professional development track, and funding stream exclusively for Asian American history, this bill promotes ethnic-based curriculum priorities rather than a unified, high-quality education for every student. It risks turning history instruction into a patchwork of group-specific narratives instead of fostering a common understanding of American history.

Maryland public schools already face significant challenges with declining test scores, teacher shortages, and basic proficiency in reading and math. The State Department of Education should focus on improving core academic outcomes for all students rather than developing targeted programs that highlight one demographic group.

I respectfully urge you to **oppose HB 1059** and vote against its passage in the Senate. Accurate instruction in history is essential — but it must apply equally to **all** of history, not just selected portions chosen for special treatment.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of my concerns regarding this important education and legislation.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals