



Committees: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment

Testimony on: **State Department of Education - Asian American History - Accurate Instruction**  
Position: **Favorable**

April 1, 2026

Chair Senator Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair Cheryl C. Kagan, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

I write in strong support of the bill, **State Department of Education - Asian American History - Accurate Instruction**.

This bill is critical to ensuring that Asian American history is implemented consistently and meaningfully across Maryland schools. Too often, whether this history is taught well depends on chance—such as an individual teacher’s background knowledge or whether a school happens to have appropriate resources—rather than a reliable, statewide commitment to equitable education.

This legislation aligns with the goals of the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future by promoting equitable educational opportunities regardless of zip code. This bill ensures consistency, sustainability, and accountability across districts.

The need for this bill remains urgent. Schools play a critical role in shaping understanding, countering stereotypes, and fostering respect among students. Accurate, well-supported instruction in Asian American history benefits not only Asian American students, but all students, by strengthening civic understanding and cultural literacy.

I respectfully urge a favorable report on this bill. Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to Maryland’s students.

Annette Cheng  
2026 Treasurer  
OCA-Greater Washington, DC Chapter (OCA-DC)  
Asian Pacific American Advocates