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**March 27, 2026**

**TO: Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chairperson; Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chairperson, and the Honorable Members of the Maryland Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,**

I am writing 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 am the first Asian American elected to the Board of Education, Montgomery County Public School in 1990 and the first member from an ethnic, cultural minority to serve as the President of the Board of Education. With the increasing Asian American population in Montgomery County and the State of Maryland and looking forward in the 21st Century, America and Asian countries would have the largest economy in the world, it would be logical and advantageous for our students and citizens to learn and understanding the history and culture of Asians, especially Asian American History in our Country and State of Maryland. Without knowledge in our history, our root would be shallow and our culturally foundation would not be strong. Brian and Cheryl, you know me well and I strongly urge you and your committee to vote for the passing the proposed bill.

Thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to Maryland’s students.

Sincerely,

**Alan Cheung**

**President (1982-83), OCA-DC**

**Founding members:**

**Association of Chinese American Physicians, Mid-Atlantic Chapter**

**Chinese American Parent Association of Montgomery County**

**Senior Advisor, Chinese Culture and Community Center, Montgomery County.**