

莱镇反H.3361 Action #1: 写信给我们的Representative 和State Senators

恳请大家花5-10分钟给Lexington自己的 representative Jay Kaufman, State Senators Cindy Friedman 和 Mike Barret 写 E-mail 反对 H.3361。

他们作为我们的representatives，有职责听取我们的意见并反映给oversight committee. 他们意见对这个Bill有很大的影响力。

麻省每年有几千个 Bill 提交，根据我们跟representatives 的一些交流，他们不了解 H.3361 的危害，只是因为这个是个亚裔提出来的Bill, 就自动的认为这是我们需要，进而支持。我们需要很多人告诉他们我们反对H.3361. 请写了e-mail的在群里说一下，我们可以统计，可以拿这个统计数据去跟他们进一步交流。

他们的联系方式是。

Lexington Sate Presentative: Jay Kaufman Jay.Kaufman@mahouse.gov, 617-722-2320

Lexington State Senator: Cindy Friedman, Cindy.Friedman@masenate.gov, 617-722-2320

Lexington State Senator: Mike Barret, Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov, 617-722-1572

E-mail template 1:

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

I am writing to express my grave concerns over Bill H.3361 which requires all government agencies to collect ethnicity information ONLY on Asian Americans and the reporting of data on five largest Asian American ethnic groups.

I urge you to oppose this Bill for the following reasons:

The Bill would seriously undermine the privacy of Asian Americans as a whole.

The collected data can potentially be misused to support discriminatory policies.

The Bill would enforce stereotype that Asian Americans are perpetual foreigners.

The Bill is a WRONG solution to address disparities between the different ethnic groups.

Please kindly convey my concerns to the Joint Oversight Committee and ask them to oppose the bill as well.

Thank you,

Sincerely

Your name and address

E-mail template 2

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

I recently heard of a proposed Bill H.3361 and felt very nervous about what the bill would do to the Asian American community. I understand that the bill is intended to address socioeconomic disparities among Asian Americans. However, the sponsors of bill seem to think ethnicity is the only caused of such disparities and the issue can be resolved by applying ethnicity targeted policies. This bill ignores that socioeconomic disparities are closely linked to income level, education and language skills. In each ethnic group, there are well-to-do and less fortunate populations. Focusing on ethnicity would only deprive us of the opportunity to look into the real causes behind the disparities and undermines the efforts to implement effective policies such as income-based assistance programs.

Thank you,

Your name and address

E-mail Template 3

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

My name is XX. I am a resident of Lexington MA. I am writing to voice my concerns about the potential long-term negative impact of Bill H.3361 on Asian Americans.

I think, by now, you probably have heard of Bill H.3361. I strongly feel that this bill will do more harm than good to Asian Americans as a whole. When judging a proposed bill, we should not just take the face value of the intention of the bill, we should also consider how much harm it can inflict in the worst-case scenario. One of the biggest concerns is that the collected data can easily be abused. Data can be interpreted any way one wishes. For example, success of immigrants can be interested as “taking away American job”. The “model minority” label is now used as the reason for race-focused data collection proposed in H.3361. Asian Americans are historically under-represented in the political arena and are very vulnerable to political rhetoric. The exhaustive information collected by the government, when linked to individual ethnicity, is a powerful enabler for discriminatory policies in political sensitive times. When that happens, the Asian American community would be the one that has to bear the full force of “fact-based” discrimination.

This is a bad bill and please oppose it.

Thank you,

Name and address

E-mail template 4

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

I was appalled when I heard of H.3361 as I cannot understand how a Bill like H.3361 can even be proposed.

No matter who and what benign intention is behind this bill, and what goals this bill purports to achieve, the sponsoring of this bill is misguided, discriminatory in effect, and harmful to Asian Americans and American society. By asking each and every Asian American in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, no matter how long we have lived in America, whether we were born in America, whether our parents were born in America, and whether we speak any language other than English or ever have traveled outside the US, to identify ourselves as being from some far away land such as China, Korea, Japan, India, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippine, ... this bill further isolates us from the American society. It puts us in a separate category from the rest of Americans, intrudes upon our individual privacy, continues the perpetual foreigner and subordinate Asian stereotype, and invalidates our American experience.

Thank you.

E-mail template 5

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

I am a resident of Lexington and I am writing regarding Bill H.3361

When I read H.3361, the first question I had was why only Asian Americans, why not other minority groups? Even in the latest e-mail from Representative Chan, he stated there is “huge cultural and linguistic diversity among African countries” and “conversation has begun to focus on the benefits of disaggregation of this population as well”.

If H.3361 is such a wonderful bill, why not just remove “Asian” from the bill and let the bill be applied to all races, as there are disparities among all racial groups, even Representative Chan admitted it.

What is Representative Chan afraid of if the solution to make this bill treating everyone equally is to simply remove one word?

Treat others how you want to be treated. It is a really that simple. Please oppose H.3361.

Sincerely XXX

E-mail template 6

Dear Representative/Senator XXX:

I wanted to bring to your attention bill H.3361. This bill reminded me of article published on NYT entitled “An Open Letter to the Woman Who Told My Family to Go Back to China”. If you have not read that article, I am asking you to take a few minutes to read it. The link to the article is as follows:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/10/nyregion/to-the-woman-who-told-my-family-to-go-back-to-china.html?mcubz=0>

The author, Michael Luo, was born in the US. When he heard of those hurtful words “Go back to your fucking country.”, he was shocked and his response at time was “I was born in this country!” I am a Chinese American and Mr. Luo’s story saddens me. This incident exemplifies the unique challenges Asian Americans are facing - “when will Asian American be treated as real Americans, not just foreigner?” As Mr. Luo painfully pointed out “It’s this persistent sense of otherness that a lot of us struggle with every day. That no matter what we do, how successful we are, what friends we make, we don’t belong. We’re foreign. We’re not American.”

What will make integration of Asian Americans more difficult? Bills like H.3361. No matter if an Asian American was born in the US, no matter if he/she is a second, third, fourth generation, no matter he has never set foot in Asia, in the eye of this bill, he/she is perpetually a foreigner.

The US is a welcoming place. H.3361 is the opposite. Please oppose it.

Thank you,

XXXX