

August 16, 2019

The Honorable Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Education
California Department of Education

1430 N Street, Sacramento, California 95814-5901

Dear Sir:

I'd like to lend a strong word of support for slowing down the current process of developing an Ethnic Studies program for California schools. It's too important an educational tool to end up with a mishmash of compromises in order to satisfy everyone quickly.

Educators should encourage students to widen the lens of their global awareness. Prejudice, with the cruelties and injustices that follow, are inherent in human society and should be treated as such in the curriculum. There are those based on sex, age, religion and class as well as ancestry and phenotypes.

The aim of the educational system should never be to directly promote political activism. In the 1930's the Germans used their schools to indoctrinate a generation.... with a disastrous result for all of us.

Perhaps we should rename the course Multi-Cultural Studies?

Diana Kehlmann, Berkeley, California



**State Superintendent
of Public Instruction**

AUG 22 2019