



ELENI KOUNALAKIS
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

August 13, 2019

Ms. Soomin Chao
Chair, Instructional Quality Commission
California Department of Education
1430 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5901

Dear Chairwoman Chao and Members of the Instructional Quality Commission:

I appreciate the hard work of the contracted writers and the Model Curriculum Advisory Committee as it develops a curriculum that will serve as a model for the entire state. As a statewide elected constitutional officer, I have continuously prioritized efforts to promote diversity and inclusion. I believe it is critical that California students are educated about our State's rich history and diversity. I write to share my concerns with the current draft of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum (ESMC).

In light of recent events, it is more important than ever that we provide our students with complete and accurate information. Without significant edits, I fear that the draft ESMC would marginalize and promote discrimination against some of our most vulnerable populations. For this reason, I strongly encourage the Instructional Quality Commission to make substantial edits to the proposed curriculum, thoughtfully review the public comments you receive, and ensure that the final curriculum is consistent with the ESMC and State Board Guidelines.

Thank you again for your commitment to providing all California students with a holistic, accurate, and comprehensive education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Eleni".

AMBASSADOR ELENI KOUNALAKIS (RET.)

Public Input Template–2020 Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum May 2019 Draft

(Download and use to provide specific recommendations)

Include the chapter of the model curriculum, the page number, and line number(s) to ensure that the California Department of Education and Instructional Quality Commission can reference the content of the document when reviewing your comments. Please email this document as a Word document to ethnicstudies@cde.ca.gov. You may contact Kenneth McDonald, Education Programs Consultant, at kmcdonal@cde.ca.gov with any questions regarding this template or the public input process.

Chapter of Model Curriculum	Your Name and Affiliation	Comment (include page and line numbers where applicable)
General	<i>Eleni Kounalakis, Lt. Governor of CA</i>	Please see attached