



FIONA MA, CPA  
TREASURER  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

August 15, 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 and former Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore, I have continuously prioritized efforts to promote diversity and inclusion.

As the author of AB199 (chaptered in 2011) which includes the contributions of Filipinos in World War II in grades 7-12 curriculum, 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 population. 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.

In Peace and Friendship,

  
Fiona Ma, CPA  
California State Treasurer

