

*Dear Members of the House Education Committee,*

*I am a resident of Westerly RI and an educator in Pawtucket RI Public Schools. I am writing to you today to express my support for H5836. I support this bill because our diverse RI student body deserves to see their histories represented in the curriculum of our schools. Multicultural history and studies should be part of the curriculum not just when it comes to heritage months or learning about struggles. An ethnic studies course would allow students to celebrate their cultures, learn about their neighbors culture, and engage in a meaningful way with this information in order to build a better world where all feel welcome. Please consider supporting this bill for the sake of our students.*

*Sincerely,  
Melanie DeSantis  
Westerly, RI*

**Melanie DeSantis**

[pronouns \(what's this?\)](#): she/her/hers

**Librarian**, Fallon Memorial Elementary School  
Pawtucket, RI (historic Wampanoag/Narragansett lands)