

Email/Letter Template

INSTRUCTIONS: Please make a copy of this document (“File” → “Make a copy”, make sure to delete this title before you send the letter out!)

Dear Assembly Member/Senator *(enter name of Assembly Member or Senator → use this website <https://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/> to find your State Members!)*,

I am writing to you to ask you to support Ethnic Studies. Ethnic Studies is very important to me. *(Insert personal story here. Should include why you enjoy Ethnic Studies, what you have been able to learn through Ethnic Studies, and other positive things you have to say about Ethnic Studies)*

Through the passage of AB 1468, we will lose the Ethnic Studies that I know and love. While the authors may have good intentions, the bill will ultimately have negative impacts.

The bill seeks to form an advisory committee to oversee any curriculum. We have heard that Ethnic Studies professionals and experts can be expected to have a voice in the committee, not control of the committee. We should be relying on Ethnic Studies professionals and experts for Ethnic Studies material. There is no further explanation needed.

The bill seeks to collect any Ethnic Studies curriculum that school districts are using and plan to use. This curriculum is to be published online. This will result in the curriculum being over criticized. The critiques will likely dilute the curriculum. No other curriculum is treated this way. This is a clear attack on Ethnic Studies curriculum.

The bill seeks to “Provide a fair, balanced, and humanizing academic presentation of various points of view regarding controversial issues, consistent with accepted standards of professional responsibility, rather than advocacy, personal opinion, bias, or partisanship.” While this sounds good, I promise it is not. Firstly, there is the issue with not allowing advocacy in the classroom. At the very heart of Ethnic Studies is advocacy. The formation of Ethnic Studies was done through advocacy. At the time, it was a controversial issue, and it seems to continue to be. According to the bill language, would we no longer teach about the formation of Ethnic Studies? While we have conversations about the United Farm Workers movement, anti-miscegenation, Chinese exclusion, Japanese concentration, BLM, recent anti-Asian hate, and more, are we not allowed to talk about the people who fought back? All of these issues to some

degree are considered controversial. Here is where you can see how the curriculum starts to become diluted. Removing advocacy from the classroom is removing the very heart of Ethnic Studies.

I am asking for your support. Please support Ethnic Studies. Please protect our education. Please keep Ethnic Studies as it is. Please do not support AB 1468. AB 1468 is not a positive bill. You can protect Ethnic Studies by saying no to AB 1468. Please pass this message to your colleagues. Stand with students, future educators, current educators, Ethnic Studies professionals, Ethnic Studies experts, and more.

Thank you,

(your name)