Good day, Chairperson Vitale and members of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee. I hope that you, your families and staff are safe and well. My name is Cathy Chin and I am testifying on behalf of the Alliance for the Betterment of Citizens with Disabilities. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 313 sponsored by Senator Rice which establishes in the Department of Community Affairs the Disparity in Treatment of Persons with Disabilities in Underrepresented Communities Commission.

Many findings have indicated that racial and ethnic disparities are significant problems for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- Latino and Black adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have markedly worse health and mental health outcomes in contrast to their white peers with intellectual and developmental disabilities. In addition, Latino and Black adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have worse health outcomes than non-disabled adults from the same race and ethnicity.¹

- Latino and Black adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have been found to have lower levels of income and education in contrast to their white peers.²

- African American and Hispanic children are less likely than white children to use Early Intervention Services available to infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities.³

New Jerseyans do take seriously their obligation to their fellow residents with disabilities. We are very pleased to have the opportunity to support a Statewide effort which will help to tease out the root causes and social determinants of these disparities in treatment order to determine actions to mitigate and alleviate them.

Thank you.

² Ibid.
³ Magnusso, D. Minkovitz, C. “Beliefs regarding Development and Early Intervention Among Low Income African American and Hispanic Mothers,” *Pediatrics*. 2017 November: 140(5) e20172059