## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

N.C. ex rel. YIATIN CHU; CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE OF GREATER NEW YORK; INCLUSIVE EDUCATION ADVOCACY GROUP; and HIGHER WITH OUR PARENT ENGAGEMENT,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BETTY A. ROSA, in her official capacity as Commissioner of Education for the State of New York,

Defendant.

## **DECLARATION OF**

I, declare as follows:

1. The facts set forth in this declaration are based on my knowledge and, if called as

a witness, I can competently testify to truthfulness under oath. As to those matters that reflect a

matter of opinion, they reflect my personal opinion and judgment upon the matter.

2. I am an Asian-American resident of New York State.

3. I am a member of the Inclusive Education Advocacy Group.

4. As an Inclusive Education Advocacy Group member, I represent the interests of

my children, M.Z. and T.Z, as their parent and guardian.

5. My child, M.Z., is Asian American and a resident of New York State.

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6. M.Z. is enrolled in 11<sup>th</sup> grade, is in good academic standing, has an overall GPA above 80, and a GPA above 80 in math, science, and English.

7. M.Z. was unable to complete an application for admission to the summer 2023 Science and Technology Entry Program (STEP) session at CUNY Baruch College because she was required to satisfy a family income threshold.

8. It is my understanding that if M.Z. was not Asian American, but instead was black, Hispanic, Native American, or Alaskan Native, then M.Z. would be eligible to apply regardless of our family's income.

9. Because M.Z. was unable to apply to the summer 2023 STEP session at CUNY Baruch College due to her race, I instead paid thousands of dollars to enroll her in an alternative summer science program.

10. My child, T.Z., is Asian American and a resident of New York State.

11. T.Z. is enrolled in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, is in good academic standing, has an overall GPA above 80, and a GPA above 80 in math, science, and English.

12. T.Z. is able and ready to apply for admission to STEP sessions at New York University and CUNY Baruch College for summer 2024.

13. Because T.Z. is Asian American, he must satisfy a family income threshold to be eligible to apply for this program.

14. It is my understanding that if T.Z. was not Asian American, but instead was black, Hispanic, Native American, or Alaskan Native, then T.Z. would be eligible to apply regardless of our family's income.

15. I believe that the STEP student eligibility requirements discriminate against Asian-American applicants like M.Z. and T.Z. because of their race.

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