



CONNECTICUT
FEDERATION
OF CATHOLIC
SCHOOL PARENTS



JOHN L. CATTELAN
DIRECTOR

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Director, Connecticut Federation of Catholic School Parents
H.B. 6434 – An Act Concerning Educators and Administrators
Education Committee
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Senator Stillman, Representative Fleischmann and members of the Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify this afternoon. My name is John Cattelan and I am here today on behalf of the Connecticut Federation of Catholic School Parents and the students and teachers of our fine educational establishments.

I am here to discuss H.B. 6434 – An Act Concerning Educators and Administrators and ask for your support.

I would like to note to members of this committee that last year a similar bill had wide bi-partisan support, passed three committees and was passed by the House of Representatives by a 151 to 0 vote. Unfortunately, the Senate adjourned before they were able to vote on the bill.

I would like to make the committee aware of the fact, while it is not mandated by law, Catholic school teachers are required by the three (arch)dioceses to participate in professional development and all three offices are certified by the state to provide CEUs. Private and religious schools also receive Title II-A funds from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act for teacher training.

The Federation believes the state of Connecticut should allow college students to student teach at private or religious schools. This should be voluntary as it is in the other 20 states that allow this. We also support following all of the current state statutes, including having certified mentors and principals, and that no costs should be incurred by local Boards of Education or the state.

Thank you.