

February 19, 2012

Dear Senator Stillman and Representative Fleischman,

I am a public school teacher in Stamford, Connecticut. Governor Malloy's Education Reform plan is **very, very unfair** to hard working teachers who **voluntarily** work many extras hours each week beyond the classroom day.

Fact: tenure provides due process of the law so that **one individual, the principal** cannot solely terminate a teacher for personal reasons.

Teaching is a complicated process... working with human beings, not sitting in front of a computer producing an inanimate item. Many children progress greatly during the school year but others have personal problems which become obstacles to learning.

Fact: Teachers instruct children who do not attend school regularly. Two years ago, a child missed 62 days out a 181 day school year. How could a teacher be **"effective"** instructing this child?

Fact: Teachers instruct children of non-English speaking parents who are unable to monitor and support what is taught in the classroom.

Fact: Teachers instruct children who have very unstable home lives. This volatile situation greatly hinders what these children learn.

Teaching is a very complex skill that involves many variables. Senate Bill 24 does not acknowledge the challenges of my profession. Please vote against Senate Bill 24. Instead, please support the Connecticut Education Association's positive reform plan.

Thank you.
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