To the Education Committee:

The people, through their State Governments, relinquished a limited amount of their power to form the Federal Government in 1789 while retaining expansive powers to themselves. The result was the U.S. Constitution. The limited powers vested to the Federal Government are listed in Articles I through Section VII. Regulating Education is not an enumerated power vested to the Federal Government in any of those Articles.

The people reasserted the premise of limited Federal Power and expansive State Power by ratifying the Bill of Rights in 1791. They are the unalienable, inviolate, inherent, God given rights retained by the people. They cannot be legislated from the people by the Legislative Branch, they cannot be executed from the people by the Executive branch nor can they be adjudicated from the people by the Judicial branch. Amendment X states: “The Powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively or to the People.” Therefore, since regulating education is not an enumerated power delegated to the Federal Government, it is a power reserved to the States or to the People.

The issue of regulating education then turns to the Connecticut Constitution. The only reference to Education in the Connecticut Constitution is in Article Eighth. It delegates to the Legislative branch the power to provide free education per Section I: “There shall always be free public elementary and secondary schools in the state. The general assembly shall implement this principle by appropriate legislation.” Article Eighth also delegates the Legislative branch the power to provide funding to the municipalities per Section IV: “The fund, called the SCHOOL FUND, shall remain a perpetual fund, the interest of which shall be inviolably appropriated to the support and encouragement of the public schools throughout the state, and for the equal benefit of all the people thereof. The value and amount of said fund shall be ascertained in such manner as the general assembly may prescribe, published, and recorded in the comptroller’s office; and no law shall ever be made, authorizing such fund to be diverted to any other use than the encouragement and support of public schools, among the several school societies, as justice and equity shall require.” Article Eighth does not expressly or explicitly empower the Legislature to regulate how those funds are to be allocated by the municipalities or for what purpose. It does not attach any conditions as to how those funds are to be spent for education. The power to regulate education therefore is a power reserved to the people through their municipal governments, not State Government. It is an unalienable right reserved by the people of Connecticut. The fact the people formed both State and Federal governments makes the People the Sovereign and Government the servant.

Any action by the Federal Government or State Government to regulate education or even consider the regulation thereof is in violation of the U.S. Constitution and the Connecticut Constitution. The hearing to be conducted by the Education Committee to consider bills H.B. No. 5078 and H.B. No. 5331 is itself unconstitutional. Any officer of the Legislative, Executive or Judicial branches in either Federal Government or State Government who violates any unalienable right reserved to the people in the Bill of Rights or in the Connecticut Constitution is subject to fines and/or imprisonment per U.S. Code 18, Sections 241 and 242. Moreover, those
who violate a person’s unalienable right can also be liable to the injured parties per U.S. code 42, Sections 1383, 1385 and 1386.

There is the misconception, being perpetrated by Connecticut State Board of Education Commissioner Stefan Pryor, that Common Core has been adopted in forty five states including Connecticut. This claim ignores the fact the State Board of Education does not represent the people of Connecticut as it is not an elective body of and by the people. Only the Legislative and Executive branches are elected to represent the people of Connecticut. The State Legislature, to my knowledge has not voted on this matter, aside from the fact doing so would be unconstitutional for the reasons stated above. Common Core therefore has not been adopted by the State of Connecticut. The same holds true for the other forty four states if such a claim is premised solely on the approval by the State Boards of Education in those States.

I am calling on the Education Committee to comply with the U.S. Constitution and the Connecticut Constitution by not convening this hearing or convene strictly to inform the people the State has no Constitutional authority per the U.S. Constitution or the Connecticut Constitution to consider Common Core, bills H.B. No.5078 and H.B. No. 5331 by acknowledging the unalienable right to regulate education rests solely with the people through their Municipal Governments.

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