



TESTIMONY OF THE  
CONNECTICUT PARENT TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE'S COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014

Good Afternoon. My name is Don Romoser. I am the President of the Connecticut Parent Teacher Student Association ("PTA") which represents over 44,000 members in Connecticut. Our leadership had a previous commitment to be in Washington, DC to advocate for Connecticut's children at the national level, so I writing you today to testify on behalf of the PTA on HB 5331 An Act Concerning the Implementation of the Revisions to the PEAC Guidelines.

The PTA is a leading advocate for children's health, education and welfare and for community engagement in those endeavors. The Proposed Bill 5331 eliminates local control over some key areas of the teacher evaluation system. Although the intent of revisiting some areas of the law is commendable, the Bill as proposed does not allow the flexibility in several areas to local education agencies that they require.

For several years, the PEAC task force worked to develop and implement the parameters of a useful teacher evaluation system. The Commission researched, debated and developed a system of standards to teacher evaluation. This was an arduous task that included stakeholders from state agencies, Boards of Education, school administration and both teachers unions. The parties reached consensus in a final design of the system. This is the body that rightfully deserves to review the work they forwarded and to offer changes. This issue should not be codified by the legislature.

In conclusion, the Connecticut PTA opposes HB 5331 and recommends that any further discussion of this issue be sent back to the PEAC Commission for further analysis. CT PTA does commit to assist Legislators, State Agencies, communities and parents in understanding and learning more about the standards and the implications as we implement any new teacher evaluation system.

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