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**Gaetano, Carolyn**

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**From:** acificon@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 5:36 PM  
**To:** GAETestimony  
**Subject:** Non Partisan Boards of Education

Thursday, February 12, 2015,

Name: Jim Accomando

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Address: 220 Jeniford Rd

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Comments: I strongly support HB 6748 AAC Nonpartisan Membership On Boards Of Education. I've been active in the education and parent-family engagement communities for years, and I've been dismayed at the fact that Connecticut is one of the few states that does not allow nonpartisan boards of education. My personal experience in Fairfield is that party affiliation sometimes prevents good candidates from running or pressures board members to tow the party line rather than do what they feel is in the best interest of students and schools. Sometimes candidates win solely on party-line votes. None of this is ideal. Connecticut's children, family and schools deserve better. HB 6748 AAC does not require funding nor is it a mandate. It simply gives towns the option to allow nonpartisan boards. I hope you will support this bill and allow it to move bill forward.

Sincerely,

Jim Accomando