



Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, Inc.

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**Testimony
submitted to the
Government Administration and Elections Committee
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**SB 847 AN ACT CREATING A CODE OF ETHICS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS AND
EMPLOYEES.**

As part of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education resolutions we adopt each year, we urge boards of education to incorporate codes of ethics and conflict of interest provisions in their bylaws. In the workshops we run for those seeking office and the workshop we run after they have just been elected we stress the responsibilities they have to their board and their district.

There are districts that are made up of more than one town and those unique relationships are addressed by those communities coming together to create what their towns hold as the most important standards. Small and large districts have created systems that work best for their communities.

Specific to this legislation, CABE urges the General Assembly to refrain from imposing financial disclosure provisions for volunteer elected officials. These requirements will cause many potential candidates to decline to run. Board of education members have many district commitments that they keep to help provide the best education for students in their districts whether it is Saturday mornings or late budget meetings over the course of week. This is a volunteer commitment unlike any other. The financial disclosure provisions are unnecessary and unduly burdensome for volunteers.

Thank you for considering these issues.