

Dear State Department of Education,

I strongly oppose the passing of HB5552. Parents of children with special needs continue to face strong opposition from school districts in what is the best course of action for their child. Even with items listed in an IEP help is being curtailed or not addressed and parents have been met with adversarial PPT meetings that hark back to times before an understanding of the needs of these children. This bill would do nothing more than add to the wall that already exists and that is forcing so many of these children to fall short of what they should be able to accomplish with the help they need. The State Department of Education needs to come up with a stronger support system for parents so that they can get the needs of their children met and not create more defenses for the school district to "just say no". This entire system is flawed and needs to be overhauled so that parents do not need to hire attorneys and advocates but rather that together the district and parent can work for the success of these students. Please do not pass this bill.

Sincerely,  
Suzanne Miska  
Fairfield, CT. 06824