



NEW LONDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Testimony in support of: **H.B. No. 7201 (RAISED) EDUCATION. 'AN ACT APPLYING THE SHEFF DEFINITION OF REDUCED-ISOLATION SETTING TO ALL INTERDISTRICT MAGNET SCHOOLS IN THE STATE'**, to apply the reduced-isolation setting standards of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, to all interdistrict magnet schools in the state.

Submitted by: Kate McCoy, Executive Director Strategic Planning & Magnet School Development, New London Public Schools

The intent of this bill is to use one measure for calculating racial isolation across Connecticut and our approximately 90 magnet schools. Currently, the calculation used in the Sheff region is not used in the Non-Sheff region. Applying one standard across the state is needed to create equity in access to our magnet grants.

Magnet schools in and out of the Sheff region share the same goals: increasing student achievement and decreasing racial isolation.

We are all held to the same standards of accountability for academic measures, yet, we have this discrepancy in one key measure: calculation of racial isolation.

We need to bring this one standard in line across the state.

Supporting this bill is supporting the establishment of one standard; it is not agreeing with the standard.

I welcome questions and further discussion about this topic.

Thank you.

