

February 26, 2019

CGA Education Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3100
Hartford, CT 06106

Subject: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

Dear CGA Education Committee:

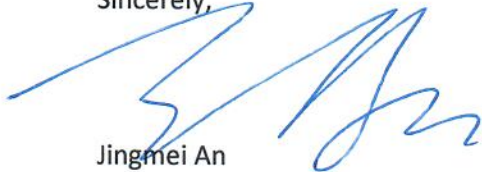
I am a resident of Wilton with two children currently attending the Wilton Public Schools. I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874, which in various forms propose forced consolidations of schools. I am against these bills because the proposed actions will lead to rapid decline in education quality for our children and bring negative economic impact to Wilton and Connecticut at large. It is extremely concerning to me that none of these bills is constructed with the quality of education in mind. Nor are they backed by any rigorous research indicating any positive educational or financial outcomes of mandated school regionalization.

Like many Wilton residents, our family came to Wilton because of the excellent schools this small town has been known for. Over the past eleven years, we have worked very hard to maintain our residence here, despite job changes, long commutes, and other challenges. Even when we were temporarily on a job assignment to work overseas, we kept our home here in order to for our children to stay with the Wilton school district.

It is extremely disappointing that SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 were even raised. Many of us have been hoping for a new beginning for Connecticut with a new governor in the office, but instead, the one thing that we care deeply for our children – first class education, is now under serious threat.

I strongly urge the Education Committee to oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, or any other legislations that open the door to forced consolidation of public schools. There are many other ways to strengthen Connecticut economically. Gambling with our children's education and future should never be one of those.

Sincerely,



Jingmei An
Resident of Wilton