

February 27, 2019

Education Committee
Legislative Office Building
Room 3100
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874

Dear Members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the following proposed bills: SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874. I am a resident of Weston, CT with two school age children who attend the public schools. We moved to Weston specifically for the outstanding quality of our school system. Like many Weston residents, I believe that forced regionalization will diminish the quality of our schools and will lead to lower property values. CT residents pay some of the highest property taxes in the country. While our high property taxes are a heavy burden, I believe that it is far outweighed by the outstanding quality of education that our children receive. Those who advocate for these proposals are placing cost savings, for which there are no empirical evidence, well above our children's education. Passing these bills will only make CT a less desirable place to live and will encourage families to leave the state.

I urge you to please not to move forward with these bills.

Sincerely,

Nikki Bievenour
43 Bradley Road
Weston, CT 06883