

February 28, 2019

To whom it may concern:

My name is Patricia Brandt and I am a resident of New Canaan, CT. Our son has a significant learning disability. So I understand firsthand the benefit and the necessity of having local control of our schools. Forcing districts to regionalize would necessarily result in a diminution of parents' and community members' voices in the educational decisions of their children, which would invariably lead to diminished outcomes for our children. Connecticut is well known for its excellent education system. We should not jeopardize our status as a national leader in education to go down a path that is detrimental to our children, our communities and our state. Further, education is a significant consideration in choosing where to live. On the east coast, people often have a choice on where to live (based on job locations, many people have flexibility to live in New York, New Jersey or Connecticut). We should not jeopardize the health of our communities by moving forward with regionalization of our schools.

I strongly urge you to stand up AGAINST state bills 457, 738, and 874 (S.B 457, S.B. 738, S.B. 874).

Thank you for your consideration.

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