

*Re: S.B 457, S.B. 738, S.B. 874*

I vehemently oppose the school regionalization bills being considered by the legislature.

Local control of schools has been part of the bedrock of our state since its founding. Local control is vital to a successful educational system, because local control enables and fosters active parental and community engagement. Regionalization would destroy that engagement by making school administrators more remote and less responsive to the local communities they serve.

Connecticut residents have watched in disgust as the governor and legislature turned our state into a national fiscal laughingstock in recent years. But those of us with children in schools that we love have stuck around nonetheless. Regionalization would be a tipping point. There are few things a parent cares more about than his or her child's education. It is the reason most of us live where we do. Regionalization would ensure that those with the financial means will continue to flee our state, pushing the state's finances into a black hole from which they will never escape.

S.B. 457, 738 and 874 must be voted down.

Sincerely,  
Brett Dockwell  
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