

Testimony

Re: Education/School Regionalization Proposals, File To: SB454, SB457, SB738 and SB 874

Dear Elected Officials:

As parent of Wilton public school students, I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to the above referenced bills.

The current school system was the biggest differentiator for me when, when I moved with my family to Wilton. Forced regionalization will take away that differentiator.

Based on historic data:

1. regionalization has no quantifiable benefit either to the quality of education or the lives of students.
2. regionalization is counterproductive due to the increase in administrative burden placed on the school system.
3. Regionalization takes away the uniqueness and differentiation in Connecticut's school system making them less competitive both within and outside of the United States

All of this will ultimately result in Connecticut losing its single largest competitive advantage: the decentralized school system and very quickly will see an exodus of people.

Let's make Connecticut the best place to live in by NOT REGIONALIZING out most differentiated asset, **OUR SCHOOLS.**

I hope you will **oppose** SB454, SB457, SB738 and SB 874 and any other legislation that opens the door for forced regionalization if Connecticut Public Schools.

Thanks

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