

February 28, 2019

To Whom it may Concern;

As a parent of a public school student, I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874, and any other bill, which address the proposed forced regionalization of public schools in CT.

Towns should have autonomy over their schools and should not be forced to regionalize. People move to specific towns for their schools and such a plan would take away the character of local schools and give less of a voice to residents as to the direction of their schools. Moreover, decreased administrators mean decreased response time to issues, and decreased community engagement. Instead of more, which should be the goal, children will actually end up getting less.

Even if the plan is not forced upon them, towns that are effectively managing their resources, no matter their size, should not be punished in any way for choosing to stay autonomous. The very idea that the State would consider giving less money to those towns, that are already doing their part to be fiscally responsible, is unfair and unjust. In effect, this is forcing regionalization as well.

Therefore, I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874, as well as any other bills that open the door to forced regionalization of CT public schools.

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