

Melissa Kyle  
135 Old Kings Highway  
Wilton, CT 06897

February 24, 2019

Re: SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874

Dear Educational Committee Members,

Regionalizing school districts would erode the value of the educational system in Connecticut, and contradicts the larger state goal of business growth.

Wilton's top fiscal priority is the school system, and residents make sacrifices to pay higher property taxes to support it. Despite job losses and retirement, families stay because of the school system and are actively involved in shaping it. It bolsters the community and it maintains property values. Under the new Tax Reform Act, we will pay higher federal taxes due to the deduction limitation on already high state and property taxes. Regionalization of schools creates a lower quality school system for us at a higher cost. I don't want that.

Connecticut is working diligently to be business friendly and to stem the flight of talent from our state. Towns like Wilton with a high quality public school system are a draw to well paid employees considering the area. While corporations can move to Connecticut, they will only succeed long term if employees find quality affordable residential and educational options for their families. Regionalizing schools contradicts this larger state goal of business growth.

Please vote No on school regionalization proposals.

Sincerely,  
Melissa Kyle

Cc:  
Representative Tom O'Dea  
Representative Gail Lavielle  
Senator Will Haskell