

February 27, 2019

Re: Opposition to SB #738 (Looney) SB #457 (Duff) and SB #874 (Lamont)

Dear Members of the Education Committee:

I am writing to strongly oppose any efforts to regionalize our schools, as is being proposed in SB# 738, SB# 457, and SB# 874.

My husband and I moved to Wilton 15 years ago. Although we didn't have children at the time, we chose Wilton in large part for its excellent school system, as we knew this would be of utmost importance once we started a family. We now have two young children who attend the elementary schools. I have been a school volunteer since my oldest started Kindergarten and know many of the teachers and school personnel by first name. The personal connections that come with a small district are highly valuable to me. My interactions with teachers and staff are not limited to the schools; I see them downtown at the grocery store, at community events and on the soccer field. I greatly appreciate the small district/small town feel of Wilton and it's what keeps us here. I fear that regionalization will forever negatively impact not only the culture of our schools, but the character of our town as well.

I implore you to oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Longmire  
Wilton, CT