

As a parent of public-school students in Weston, CT, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

Here are some of the reasons for my opposition:

- Having grown up in Connecticut and a strong desire to raise my family here I am extremely disappointed to see the economic decline of this state. I hold the current and former leaders responsible. Regionalization is another example of how the leadership continues to fail Connecticut and its constituents. Without a doubt, if these bills are approved, I will vote for leadership change at every opportunity.
- We moved here from California for the schools, and existing school quality is what keeps us here. With the purposed change we will certainly consider other education options.
- From what I have been able to learn and read none of these bills include even one mention of school quality. Our Weston school system has strived for outstanding performance and blue-ribbon status. Under the regionalization proposal, our town will not gain quality but in fact all the hard work will be jeopardized.
- Erodes the quality and the character of our local schools, which erodes the quality of our town
- Concern about potential impact of larger school sizes, decreasing administrator and community engagement, etc.
- Evidence that this is already preventing people from coming to CT, or is driving decisions of people to leave CT. Our home values have already declined and this gives another reason not to buy in Connecticut.

I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Tara Quist

Weston, Connecticut