

State Senators, Education Committee Members, State and Legislative Leaders

I am writing to express my strong opposition to proposed by Senator Looney Bill SB 738 (454) , by Senator Duff Bill SB 457 and the Gov. Lamont Bill SB 874 , the bills that would force regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

I have been a Wilton resident since 2006. My wife and I moved here from Norwalk before our kids were even born, because we knew, that if we ever had kids we wanted them to attend Wilton Public Schools NOT Norwalk.

I have 2 kids now. One in Middle School and another in Elementary. I want to maintain the high quality of education for my children that Wilton Schools give them right now.

I chose Wilton specifically for its schools. I know all my kids teachers, I can reach out to them anytime to discuss any issues and that is the highlight of living in small school district. The personal connection makes a huge difference. I am involved at my kids schools and I value this opportunity. We like our small teacher - student ratio. My kids feel SAFE at our schools, feel NOTICED and are ENGAGED in learning. They love our schools and attend it with an enthusiasm. They know most of the other kids at school because at some point they were attending the same grade or class or activity. This gives them the courage and help them to be more open.

Student and Parent engagement declines when schools are expanded. We don't need nor want a larger school district.

We work hard to be able to maintain living here in Wilton, to be able to send our kids to Wilton Public Schools that We chose for them.

I truly hope you will oppose SB 738 (454), SB 457, SB 874 any other effort to force consolidation of Connecticut Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Arek Rutkowski