

February 28, 2019

Christine Santulli
Wolcott, Connecticut 06716

In Re: S.B. 457, S.B.738, S.B.874

Chairmen McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of the Education Committee, Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on S.B. 457, S.B. 738 and S.B. 874.

I was born and raised in Waterbury, Connecticut. I attended Waterbury schools from 1972 through high school graduation in 1985. I received a very valuable education during my 12 years, which I worked very hard to attain.

After getting married and deciding to have children, my husband and I worked extremely hard to save the funds to build our home in Wolcott, Connecticut. We mainly chose Wolcott due to the excellent school system and the smaller population compared to Waterbury where we both were raised. We now have three children in the Wolcott School system, a sophomore in high school, an eighth grader and a fifth grader who have all flourished in our schools.

Regionalization may make sense for some towns and cities to be able to fill any gaps in either regions. As far as Wolcott is concerned, our Board of Education members, administrators and teachers have been churning out amazing students who have gone on to college and/or trade training. Our administrators have been able to teach our children with one of the lowest dollars per student with phenomenal test scores. Our education system in Wolcott works very well and does not need to regionalize with any other school system. Therefore, I respectfully request that mandatory regionalization does not take place in the state of Connecticut. Leave that decision to the Towns and Cities to come to their own decisions when it comes to regionalization.

Thank you again for reading my letter. I'm happy to answer any question you may have.

Sincerely,

Christine Santulli
Wakelee Elementary School PTO President