

SB 457, SB 738 & SB 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 SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874.

As a resident of Wilton, CT, I am highly opposed to the concept of forced regionalization of our education system. I experienced regional schools as a student and remember long bus rides and a lack of accountability - it was a negative experience overall. As a result, one of the reasons I chose to move my family to Wilton was that the schools were NOT regional. Not only will forced regionalization lead to a degradation of education quality in our school district, it will negatively affect property values here in Wilton and throughout the state. Moreover, while there is no evidence that school regionalization will lead to cost savings, it will likely lead to less accountability amongst school boards and administrators. Ultimately, it will be our children who will suffer from forced regionalization and I find it appalling that our elected officials would consider a plan with such negative consequences.

I urge you to oppose SB 454/738 and SB 874.

Thank you again for hearing my testimony. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Sheehy, Esq.

Wilton, CT