

**To: The Connecticut State Legislature's Committee on Education**  
**Date: February 28, 2019**

**Re: Bills SB 738, SB 454, and SB 874**

Howard and I are concerned that the Connecticut State Legislature is considering forcing regionalization on our public school districts. Even if there were savings in administrative costs to be made, which we doubt, the cost and damage to local control and town engagement would be unacceptable. Across Connecticut we have many, many towns where local support and involvement have led to quality education for our kids. As graduates of Connecticut public institutions we have experienced this first hand.

Regionalization would only create large, expensive bureaucracies which would become more detached from their communities. It is a strength of Connecticut to have no county government and very few regional governmental entities. This move to regionalize strikes us as "a solution in search of a problem". Community school boards comprised of elected citizens exercising control over the community educational departments is, in our opinion, the right way to see that educational programs work well and efficiently in behalf of the local community. To structure otherwise would be a travesty. Please think about this before moving forward with a bad idea.

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