

To: edtestimony@cga.ct.gov

RE: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

As a parent of public school students and part of the Wilton community for 15 years, I wanted to express how strongly I oppose the bills that are currently being discussed. They are: SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 as well as any other bill that may open the door to any type of forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

When my husband and I were looking to move out of New York City, we considered several areas. Northern NJ, Westchester, NY and several other towns in southwestern CT. Ultimately, we chose Wilton because of the community, character of the town and most importantly, the schools' reputation. As parents of 3 young children, this was a critical element of our decision. I have not seen mention or evidence of how any of this proposed legislature would improve the quality of the education that the students receive. I believe that instead, these bills will take away the voice of the community of parents and teachers within our local schools.

This government overreach will ultimately hurt the community and drive new residents away which in turn will have a negative ripple effect on all aspects of the towns we care so much for. Regionalization is not the answer and does not work! It historically has a high failure rate.

I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other legislation that would open the door to unwelcome, forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

Thank you,

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