

February 25, 2019

To: edtestimony@cga.ct.gov

Subject: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, SB 874 and SB 454/738

As a parent of children enrolled in Wilton public schools, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, SB 454/738 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

We moved to Wilton, CT from Wilmette, IL in 2006. The number one reason we chose Wilton was because we knew our children would receive an excellent education here. Moreover, the people in Wilton are committed and motivated to do what is right for their children and community. I know I am among many who greatly oppose what is being discussed for the future of our schools.

I am currently working with local realtors as a move manager and have learned first-hand that potential buyers are now turning away from Wilton because of this proposed legislation. Every conversation in town is about how people are upset with our legislators and want to move away – how could any of this benefit our schools and economy?

From reading what is proposed, I am certain school regionalization would wreak havoc on our school system and community life overall. The burdens and chaos associated with school regionalization would have a negative impact on our town financially, and hence, more people would be driven to move out of town. This can only hurt neighboring towns and Fairfield County as a whole. I can't imagine why any CT legislator would allow this to happen

I sincerely hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, SB 454/738 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

Thank you,

Laurie Maggio

Wilton, CT