

As a parent of students entering the public school system and a homeowner, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools. We purchased our home specifically for the schools, and existing school quality is what keeps us here. The town-centric organization of the schools induces increased community involvement and the important building of a community in which our kids grow and learn. Although these bills are purported to save costs, in fact they will likely fail to do this. They will, however, have a negative impact of school quality, abilities of schools to tailor their offerings to the needs of their towns and communities, and a lead to resident attrition and a decrease in property values and negative consequences for the statewide economy. In fact, there is evidence that this is already preventing people from coming to CT, and is contributing to the decisions of people to leave CT. I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

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