

Ms. Kristin Reed

824 N Wilton Road, New Canaan, CT 06840

February 28, 2019

Connecticut Education Committee Legislative Office Building

Room 3100

Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 Dear

Members of the Education Committee:

As a parent of two public school students and as a member of the Saxe Middle School PTC Executive Board, I very strongly oppose all school regionalization bills (SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874).

- SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 do NOT improve education.
- SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 do NOT save taxpayers money.
- SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 hurt small communities, like New Canaan.
- SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 are, in fact, already hurting my community by turning away prospective home buyers in New Canaan, who will easily look to Westchester County.
- SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 will hurt disadvantaged students the most.

We moved to New Canaan from beautiful Bridgewater, CT back in June of 2014 for better public schools for our children. Forcing districts to regionalize will inevitably hurt education in the **entire state** of Connecticut. Sadly, we left the Region 12 school district because it was a mess, and it was clear that between declining enrollments and diminishing school budgets we needed an alternative for our children.

**Forced Regionalization is applying a “one-size-fits-all” approach and will be detrimental to all the children of our state.** Please reconsider such aggressive action and instead find ways to model the success of New Canaan, Wilton, and other local high achieving districts. Thank you for your time and consideration

Sincerely,

Kristin Toner Reed