

Regarding Bills: SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874

Chairman McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of the Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874.

We built our home in Burlington over 25 years ago for the small hometown feel that we wanted for our growing family. We have always been very pleased with Region 10 and the services our children received there.

Prior to this we had been living in Bristol and had to send our daughters to Catholic school because the education was so poor there. There was no communication between us and the teachers and when we sat in on classes, children were incredibly disrespectful to teachers and other students. This is not what we wanted for our girls. We built a home in Burlington and the Region 10 school system was one of the main reasons.

The smaller class sizes and community feeling in each and every classroom and the obvious commitment of the teachers and administrators to providing a safe, collegiate atmosphere is still present after all these years.

Now my grandson is attending Harwinton Consolidated. He also went to Bristol preschool before my daughter and family moved to Harwinton. What a change in this child we see on an everyday basis. He can't wait to get to school, he is safe and attends school with peers that he will know all his life. I now volunteer there whenever I can and just love the feeling I get from giving back.

This is the type of school I want my grandchildren to experience and the type of school we moved here for. **Please do not change the regionalization of our schools. There are so many of us that are so proud of our town schools and want to keep it that way. We love Region 10 and want to keep it the amazing way that it is!**

Thank you again for hearing my testimony. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Crandall Steciak

Proud Resident of Burlington CT in Region 10

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