

February 28, 2019

State of CT
Legislative Office Bldg.
Room 4200
300 Capital Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Bills SB 738, SB 874

Dear Members of the Education Committee;

I would like to go on record as being against school regionalization.

Our small districts are critical to the survival of this State. We have invested in, and depend upon, our local schools as one of the main reasons why we live where we do.

Regionalization is a misguided attempt to save money without improving performance. Our towns are best served by local control where local needs can be identified and implemented. The idea of a "one size fits all" is an ill-conceived expectation for education.

The greatest predictor of a child's success in school is the home environment. Let's focus the energies and resources there.

Like any business success is a result of many factors. If we (CT) have the best schools people will want to live here. Then our home values will increase, businesses will want to be here, and revenues increase (including taxes).

This proposed legislation does the opposite. Our schools will suffer. People will stay away from CT. People will leave the state in increasing numbers. Our revues will decrease even more, and the State will continue its decline.

Please think about a better way. There are many options open to us.

This is not the answer.

Respectfully,

Kathleen A. Wilson
Wilton, CT