

In opposition to SB 874, Sect 17 and 18

Dear Honorable Members of the Connecticut Education Committee,

I am writing to you with regards to the proposed language addition to Section 17 and Section 18 of SB 874.

I am respectfully requesting that this proposed language addition not be added.

I'm rather confused as to why this new mandate is even being introduced. Why is it a good idea that private homeschool families register with an already overburdened public school district? Why should lawmakers vote to implement a new mandate when we have not been provided any explanation as to its benefit?

I've always admired that the Constitution State honors a parent's right to provide for their child a customized home-based education-free from any bureaucratic entanglements. I am disappointed that there are some who wish to infringe on that freedom.

I am a mom with two young children. My oldest is 5 and has been diagnosed with social communication disorder. Currently she is in preschool but we do not plan on enrolling her in kindergarten. While she has weaknesses regarding language and speech, she is incredibly gifted visually-she can make amazing creations from almost anything. A speech pathologist suggested that my daughter will likely enter the STEM field as a career. My daughter will always be a bit delayed with some of her learning while excelling at other subjects, which is why we will homeschool her. No school could give our unique child the unique learning experience she needs and deserves.

Sadly many parents I meet cannot wait until their children are old enough to send to school so that they can get a "break." Conversely, I am so excited to spend my days with my kids to help them grow into their fullest potential.

I thank you for your time,
Sharon Ambrose
South Windsor