

February 28, 2019

**RE: Proposed Bill SB874 & Registration of Connecticut Homeschoolers**

To Whom It May Concern on the Connecticut Joint Committee on Education:

I am writing in response to the Governor's Proposed Omnibus Senate Bill 874. I respectfully ask that you strike any and all language in Sections 17 and 18 that target homeschoolers - particularly parents' in-person registration and forcing the Common Core model on grades K-4 of home educating families.

As a peaceful and law abiding citizen, I find it alarming and utterly unacceptable that my family, and the many honorable families who educate their children at home, would be treated as if we were in some way behaving in a criminal manner. We are home educating families; we are not criminals. We will not be treated as such. We see no reason to register our children with our local public schools. We will not allow any of our private information to be turned over to the offices of DCF without due process.

My children are not the property of the State. Therefore, I do not owe any duty or explanation to the State for what curriculum I use, what values I teach, or how we spend our time educating. According to Connecticut Law, we are not required to do so. By contrast, we expect to continue to exercise our God- given right to raise children according to our own consciences, using the guiding principles of morality, a hard work ethic, and outstanding character.

Please remember the people of this great state whom you serve. Respectful and law abiding, do not put us in a position to become your enemy.

Sincerely,

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