

FROM THE DESK OF

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**THOMAS BALZAMO**

February 25, 2019

Education Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 3100  
Hartford, CT 06106

To the esteemed members of the committee,

I would like to encourage the members of the committee to please vote "No" on S.B. 874. Of particular concern to me, are Sections 17 and 18. As a homeschool parent, I should not be required to personally sign a registration form at my local school district office. Also, I do not need access to curricula approved by the Department of Education.

Those would represent a significant departure from Connecticut's current homeschool statute which recognizes the right of parents to direct the education of their children. Mandatory, annual, in-person filing would restrict the freedoms that homeschool families presently enjoy.

Also, should there be a fiscal note attached to this bill, it would not be prudent to advance such a bill in a difficult budget year. That, of course, is the lesser reason why I would urge you to vote "No" on S.B. 874. Primarily, I do not wish to see present homeschool freedoms restricted. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Thomas Balzamo