

Dear Connecticut Senator/Representative,

We oppose SB 874 as a potential infringement on family privacy and parental rights. Section 17 does not explicitly limit the access of home school registration information strictly to the local school district for limited purposes such as keeping statistics, or confirmation that homeschool students are receiving instruction. Section 18 indicates the Department of Education will make model curricula and frameworks available to parents registered to provide home school instruction, but that is not necessary.

As a homeschooling parents and instructors we are grateful for our right to privacy and to train our children in a way that is suited to their learning style by using materials that have helped achieve results on standardized tests far above grade level.

Connecticut has been a wonderful place to home school, with its rich community and no regulatory interference. This context has been an influencer in our decision to raise our family in Connecticut. Our children are thriving and our community is benefiting from their presence.

We recognize the state has an interest in protecting children and supporting their education, and we strongly support that interest as well. However, we also strongly oppose Sections 17 and 18 of SB 874 because they may lead to harmful intrusions on the productive efforts that home schooling families make every day.

Thank you for your service to our state and considering our opinion.

Sincerely,

Amy and Steven Bassett