

To : Clerk of the Education Committee
From: Sandi Blaze, Wilton, CT
Date : February 25, 2019
RE : **SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 – just say “no”**

Dear Education Committee,

It seems that what I have taken as sacred is about to be upended. I have lived in CT my entire life, having gone to public school in Trumbull, then UConn. Now I live in Wilton, where our three children (now young adults) went to Wilton High, a tremendous school system.

Suddenly, this may all be taken away from the next generation – perhaps my grandchildren. To what end? In addition to taking away the main purpose of a tightly knit town, regionalization of schools in whatever flavor, will also accelerate the economic decline already in process in this once great state.

This notion of consolidating, regionalizing, whatever you want to call it is bad business. Please have the common sense to stop this before it has a life of its own, taking us down a vicious spiral that will not end well.

If some very small communities want to petition for being groups with other small communities, let them ask for it themselves. Don't force things on the entire state. Top down mandates never work for local issues, and this is the quintessential local issue.

You would be breaking an unwritten promise if any of these bills were to go through. We believed that the towns in which we lived, and the friends and neighbors in these towns, would decide their own fate about schools.

I am very worried about the economic future of Connecticut, the only state I have ever called home. This will be the nail in the coffin.

Sandi Blaze
Wilton