

Dear Chairperson and Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Kaleitha Brown. I have been a CT resident for 45 years and a homeschooling parent for 15 of those years. I am writing to express my extreme **opposition to SB 874**.

This bill has no reasonable rationale or basis that has been explained to CT parents. It is being handed down as a new directive for parents, another imposed task with no justification behind it that has been thus far shared with voters. It is a transgression upon my inalienable rights as a parent to educate my child as I see fit without any approval whatsoever from any government entity. Local boards of education already annually enumerate all children of school age residing in their districts. There is no need to duplicate this by requiring that I appear annually in person to register to do something I already have the right to do.

This bill can create a hostile environment or situation for parents. There is no reason I need to have any interaction with a school system that I have made every effort to NOT be a part of for the past 15 years, unless my children express an interest in doing so. I do not need to go to the school district in person to satisfy a system that has no part of our family life. We are already providing an outstanding education, free from the multitude of ills currently plaguing our education system. We already pay taxes to a school district that we are not using - free money for the school district, without receiving anything in return. The school board already collects enumeration data for all school-age children. Thus, there is nothing else the school system should demand from me, certainly not my family's private information.

This bill will have far reaching consequences if it is approved. The rabbit hole it creates is nothing short of tragic for Connecticut families. Unnecessary and arbitrary collection of data will lead to infringement of other privacy and parental control rights. State representatives who vote to approve this bill will lose the support of Connecticut families, including both those who homeschool and those who do not but see this bill for the gross violation of freedom that it is. This major loss of support will be evident in the next election.

Connecticut will see an exodus of families from the state, an occurrence it cannot afford with so many families already moving out of state due to lack of employment, high taxes and other maladies afflicting the average Connecticut family. So many Connecticut residents have become disappointed in the quality of life available for their families here in Connecticut. Please take steps now, starting with this bill, to change the views of the constituents you serve.

I hope the representatives we have voted into office and placed our trust in, not only hear, but truly listen to the voice of the people and **do not approve this bill**.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Kaleitha Brown  
Windsor, CT