

Re: SB 874: AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT

Dear Education Committee,

I am writing to ask that you please strike Sections 17 and 18 from Bill SB 874. I feel that both of these sections are entirely unnecessary.

I am a Connecticut homeschooling graduate, as are my six siblings, along with my husband and his siblings, and we all excelled without mandated regulation like that being proposed today. All of us are successful hard-working adults. I am now a homeschooling mom of five (soon-to-be six) eager to learn children, and if appearing yearly to register our children at the school district becomes mandatory, it will place unnecessary burden on parents like myself. It is also discriminatory towards homeschoolers because those parents using the public school system do not have to do the same for their children.

Section 18 of Bill SB 874 is unnecessary because homeschoolers already have access to so much curriculum out there, appealing to all sorts of learning styles. I fear that this language, if passed, would possibly be used as a stepping stone to regulation of curriculum choice and content in the future. I, as a loving parent of my children, am more qualified than anyone else to seek out and choose a curriculum that best suits the learning style of each of my children, and will be more motivated than anyone else to provide my children with the best possible resources. I do not need the state to offer a "model curricula and frameworks" to guide me.

Please do not mess with my rights and freedoms as a parent to educate my children in the very best way I know how!

I strongly urge you to strike out Sections 17 and 18 from Bill SB 874.

Sincerely,

Cristina Calef

Lebanon, CT