

To the members of the committee and our elected officials of the state of Connecticut,

As a parent of future public school students, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

I currently reside in Wilton CT with my husband and children. Both my husband and I grew up in Wilton and went through the public school system. We chose to come back to this area to raise our family because of our love for the community and the amazing school/athletic programs offered. Now we are clinging on to hope that a bill with no merit will not wipe out all our hard work to provide a good life for our children. Please vote against SB 738, 457 and 874.

The state is in hardship, yes. Let's fix the actual problems instead of proposing legislation that attacks the only thing that is efficiently run and fiscally responsible. The Wilton school system has continued to flourish with less and less funding from the state. Keep control local!

The population is decreasing and increased taxes are pushing what little pupils we have out of the state. How do we fix this issue, we attract businesses and people back. Regionalizing schools is not going to attract new and young families to our areas.

My husband commutes over 3 hours a day to NYC. The commute is getting longer every year and the commuter cost is increasing annually. We have new trains and slower service. He barely sees his family during the week, but we've chosen not to move closer to the city because our deep connection with Wilton. If you continue to strip everything from us we will have no choice but to leave and raise our children elsewhere. Don't force us out.

Instead of targeting areas that are fiscally responsible and successful, let's work together to fix what used to be a great state. Let's empower people to come up with true solutions instead of pushing political driven agendas that have and will continue to bringdown our state.

For this and many more reasons I urge you to please vote no to SB 738, 457 and 874.

Thank you,

Gina Chute
Wilton CT