

To whom it may concern,

I am fifteen years old, and I have been homeschooled my entire life. I have greatly enjoyed homeschooling and the educational freedom and opportunities it brings.

I take issue with your specific mention of homeschoolers in sections 17 and 18 in SB-00874. There is no problem for which these two sections solve. There is currently no issue being caused by homeschoolers not registering with their school systems, nor is there any lack of access to curriculum for homeschooling families. You are proposing restrictions for homeschoolers for no apparent reason other than plain skepticism of the ability of homeschooling families to educate their children. There is no problem, yet you propose legislation that could potentially harm homeschooling families.

The forced registration of homeschoolers proposed in section 17 is the first step toward increased regulation of homeschooling, which would cause unnecessary harm to families who wish to provide the best education available for their children.

In addition, the specific mention of homeschoolers in section 18 is unnecessary. Homeschoolers have access to a world of curricula, including those used by public schools. From these options, families are able to choose which curricula work best for their children. Singling out homeschoolers in the wording of this bill steps dangerously close to regulating which curricula homeschooling families can use.

I kindly ask that you remove any reference to homeschooling in SB-00874.

Thank you,
Claribel Connor
Woodstock, CT