

February 27, 2019

To: Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly

Regarding: SB 874

Submitted by: Tammy Hopkins Canterbury CT

I oppose SB 874 because it is unnecessary. This bill requires in-person registration for all homeschooling parents, a measure which is a significant departure from the current state statute which recognizes the constitutional right of parents to direct the education of their children. In-person registration is not necessary for increased safety, as homeschooled children have been shown statistically to be safer than those in public school.

The other measure that makes SB 874 unnecessary is the offering of “model curriculum” to students in grades K-4. There is no need to incorporate curriculum into a bill since information is already available on the state website, and homeschooling families have a wealth of other curriculum to choose from.

I urge you to vote NO on SB 874. Neither measure addresses a pressing need, and both limit the freedom currently recognized and protected by Section 10-184.