

February 28, 2019

Re: Senate Bill 457, Senate Bill 738, Governor's Bill SB 874

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the Governor's Bill SB 874 AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.

As a small town resistant in Old Lyme I am strongly opposed to the idea of regionalizing our small town school system of Lyme and Old Lyme. I have 2 children who attend the amazing Middle School and attended Mile Creek School since Kindergarten. One of the reasons we moved to Old Lyme was because of the school system. The school system here takes the education of our children very seriously and also always has the best interests of all the students at heart. I have never once been concerned that my voice wouldn't be heard and have worked through any concerns together as a team of parents, students and faculty. My children are becoming wonderful citizens in part because of this town and school system.

The idea of my children enduring long bus rides to a large school system is unheard of to me and quite frankly I reject it. If I wanted a large school system with many students I would have lived in a larger town or city. I would not hesitate to move away from this as I would never allow my children to endure this change. I also know that the majority of the parents here feel the same way. It would cause complete chaos to this wonderful, close knit, small town community. What a shame it would be to lose many families due to a government decision to make unnecessary changes to school systems that are thriving as they are currently. This decision should be made at a local level.

Thank you for hearing my voice,

Sarah Hovey