

Testimony in opposition of:
S.B. 457, An Act Concerning the Size of School Districts
S.B. 738, An Act Concerning the Creation of Regional School Districts
S.B. 874, An Act Concerning Education Initiatives and Services in Connecticut

Submitted by:
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Dear Chairmen McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of the Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874.

I am opposed to forced regionalization and other bills, which reduce local education control. These bills have a lofty goal of saving state funds; however, there is no concrete research that confirms a real savings. Several smaller school districts have explored consolidation options and concluded that consolidation would not result in significant cost savings. Instead, consolidation raised concerns regarding whether the quality of education would suffer.

Thank you again for hearing my testimony. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have

V/r

Mark Howard