

February 28, 2019

Gretchen Jeanes
68 Branch Brook Rd
Wilton, CT 06897

SUBJECT: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, SB 874

Members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to express my opposition to SB 738, SB457, and SB874.

As a parent of public school students, I strongly oppose SB738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools. We moved to Connecticut six years ago and chose Wilton because of the school reputation and its high ranking in the state and in the country. None of these schools mention school quality.

I attended a regional high School in Winnetka, IL and the very large size of the school (5,000 students in 9-12th Grade) was too big and was the very reason why I chose a smaller high school in a tight knit community engaged in the town. I am concerned the reduction in administrators and reduced ability for community engagement will also negatively affect the towns and schools.

I also understand some people are choosing not move to Connecticut due to these bills. And I, having 13 generations of the my family living in Connecticut since the 1600s, would also plan to relocate out of Connecticut to seek high quality public schools in neighboring state to avoid State forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that allows for forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Thank you,

Gretchen Jeanes
Wilton, CT