

**Senate Bill 457 AN ACT CONCERNING THE SIZE OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS-**

**Senate Bill 738 AN ACT CONCERNING THE CREATION OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
Governor's Bill SB 874 AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN  
CONNECTICUT**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I am writing to express my opposition to these Senate Bills as proposed.

My family, including two teen-aged sons, relocated to Old Lyme, CT, from Philadelphia, PA, in July 2014. The excellent performance of the Lyme-Old Lyme (Region 18) school system was the primary reason for this move. Connecticut is well known throughout the region and, indeed, the United States, for its excellent education system. This stands to suffer significantly if schools are regionalized further, creating massive schools and increasing the student:teacher ratio beyond effective productive capacity. Students will lose the opportunity to fully grow and contribute through sports, arts, and co- and extra-curricular activities, and standardized test scores will surely suffer as a result. Ultimately, this decision will undoubtedly prove short-sighted and end up costing even more in the end.

Services are already regionalized to a great extent. If Connecticut wishes to attract more tax-paying residents to the state, creating huge, impersonal educational "factories," based on arbitrary population density and geographic calculations, is not an effective inducement. Had we desired to have our children attend large schools with fewer resources and opportunities, we would have stayed in Philadelphia!

Please reconsider these proposals for regionalization.

Thank you for your attention to and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

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