

LT Gena Mann  
15 Elaine Court  
Prospect, CT 06712  
February 28, 2019

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.

After reviewing the current proposals to force school regionalization I find myself baffled that the school districts themselves are not being consulted and moreover that the towns themselves are not being looked to or asked for input on regionalization. While my town of Prospect has been regionalized with Beacon Falls for years, and I grew up within Region #16 school district, I cannot fathom how other towns are feeling when they are essentially being forced to submit to other towns' ideals and pedagogy methods.

While regionalization may help schools and certain towns themselves to become more elevated in their education, the towns themselves should be incentivized to regionalize and not forced to in a manner with no input from their own people. This is as far from being democratic as things can get when the will of the people are ignored and not even taken into account.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "LT Gena E Mann". The signature is written in a cursive style.

LT Gena Mann  
US Coast Guard