



CONNECTICUT REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY
41 Crossroads Plaza, PMB 270
West Hartford, CT 06117

February 28, 2019

Testimony in Opposition of SB457, SB738, SB874 : *To force school regionalization, force parents of homeschoolers to register their children, force public school nurses/health manage the health of children in the private and parochial schools.*

Dear Chairman McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and Distinguished Members of the Education Committee,

The three bills noted above to force regionalization of public school systems as well as other points included in the bills are of great concern to many residents in the state of Connecticut.

A study that you might be familiar with, *K-12 Regionalization in CT: Pros, Cons and Surprises*, done by the Hartford Foundation for Public Policy (2018) provides detailed information in opposition to regionalization; consolidating school districts will not improve public schools costs.

http://www.hfpg.org/files/7915/3013/0299/Regionlization_Report_Draft_as_of_6-27-2018.pdf

Additionally, no where in any of these bills is education quality discussed. All parents and residents of Connecticut want the best public education at the best cost, but not a cost of losing local control, increasing school district size and flattening of programs. Further, it is odd including homeschooling children into districts data and also the private and parochial school children in school data should simply not be included, and makes no sense to be added. Why is this being asked?

No additional special commissions or studies are needed; the study above provides the answers.

It is my hope that SB 738, SB 457 , SB 874 and any other legislation which has to do with school regionalization will not be voted out of the Education Committee, and if voted on that you will vote a sound 'No' to each of these three bills.

Sincerely,

Anne Manusky, M.Ed., LPC
First Vice President, CTRA
Easton, CT