

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

I am writing regarding these bills regarding educational regionalization. I am very strongly opposed to these proposals. I believe that:

- Regulation by the state historically has shown an inability to deal with the needs of local education, witnessed by the closing of UConn's Torrington Branch, removing educational opportunities from this region. Projecting this philosophy, students from rural districts would be forced into longer hours of travel to the educational centers that would, no doubt, become located in denser population areas, namely cities.
- Local governments are currently more suited and efficient with regards to establishing the educational goals of the region. Statewide regionalization proposals have shown no advantages to the regional school systems currently in existence. One size does not fit all in education.
- As a taxpayer and longtime Connecticut resident, I resent submitting the rights of local town government to the state concerning education. I do not believe that local systems funding should be controlled by the state as these funds will be funneled to failing big city systems. The resultant underfunding of smaller municipalities will be devastating to these towns.

Respectfully,

William Marchand
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