

Education Committee
Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT

Re: SB 738, SB 457, SB 874

Thursday, February 28, 2019

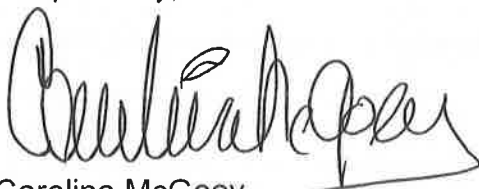
My name is Carolina McGoey and I am a resident of the town of Darien in Fairfield county. I have two children enrolled and attending the Darien Public Schools. I write to you today in opposition of the idea of forced regionalization proposed in the bills SB 457 and 738. These bills as they are show very little thought about the benefit they might offer our children and I see no research to support the proposals. We also have no idea of what kinds of cost savings they would offer our town.

I understand the legislative process needs to start somewhere and that public discourse needs to unfold. I also understand the enormous challenges our state face and that any and all ideas should be considered, there is no such thing as a bad idea. But sometimes, while brainstorming, bad ideas do come up and after giving them a voice we should disregard them. This, in my opinion, is one of those occasions.

We moved back to Darien, after living abroad for 10 years, for the outstanding school system the town offers. I follow closely the work of our Board of Education and our Superintendent and the rest of the School Administration as I am an elected member of RTM for District 3 as well as a member of the Education Committee for the RTM representing District 3. I am very proud of the fiscal shape our town is and I certainly do not believe that we, as residents of Darien should be penalized for the mismanagement of funds of other towns in Connecticut or of the state capital.

I respectfully request that these bills are off the table until all the studies are finished and there is enough evidence that do show that forcing regionalization will enhance the educational experience for all students of Connecticut, including our own.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolina McGoey', written in a cursive style.

Carolina McGoey