

February 27, 2019

Greetings:

Our names are Dr. Asante K. Mendes MD and Ruth Mendes and we're homeschooling residents of Burlington, CT and I oppose SB 874, Sections 17 and 18. SB 874, sections 17 and 18 are unnecessary intrusion into family privacy, rights and negates a parent's choice for education. Regulation is completely unnecessary and counter – productive. Existing law recognizes the parents as having the right to the training and upbringing of their children. Other laws are already in place to address any concerns that might exist. As a practicing psychiatrist in the State of CT, I am personally offended by the language of this proposed regulation. Our daughter who was homeschooled until 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year and is currently applying to top private schools in the State like Choate, Taft and Miss Porters, has been recognized as an exceptional candidate due to her hands-on travel and experiences provided to us via homeschooling. We request that you please remove sections 17 and 18 from SB 874.

Respectfully,

Asante and Ruth Mendes, Burlington, CT

Asante K. Mendes MD and Ruth E. Mendes MBA