

TO: Education Committee

RE: SB 874 AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN CONNECTICUT.

To Whom It May Concern,

As a homeschooling mother I strongly OPPOSE these sections of SB-874:

Sec. 17. Section 10-184

It is not the state's responsibility to force a parent or guardian to register their children with the local school system. The state has no business dictating how a homeschooling parent should instruct their children. This is unnecessary tracking of our children, it is government overreach, and I refuse to allow my freedoms to be taken away.

Sec. 18. Section 10-1600

As we know, plural of curriculum is failing many children. It's the parent's right to instruct their child as they see fit.

Not all children learn the same. Those with learning disabilities do not respond well to institutional settings. Districts do not follow their bullying policies, food allergy policies and oppressive curriculum which is causing mental and physical problems with their children. Homeschooling allows parents to teach their children in the ways that their children learn best. NO ONE is going to care more for my child than my husband and myself. Parents know what their children need to learn and know how their children respond to instruction and education. If there is any tracking homeschooling, it will move towards forcing us to lower our standards to public-school requirements. We do not intend to comply with homeschool tracking and we refuse to be forced to lower our standards to match public education.

I am concerned about these proposed sections in SB-874. I will not let the state take away my family's rights. I refuse your "framework" and "registration" which is what this legislation wants from the homeschooling community. There is no homeschooling "problem", no public school "problem"; it's a state problem. This is legislative creep and will not be tolerated. Therefore, I request, as a citizen of Connecticut and as a homeschooling mother, that you DO NOT support this bill or any current or future amendments to it that could in any way erode constitutional and parental rights. Any legislation that erodes constitutional or parental rights will be met with great opposition.

Going forward, I will be voting for legislative candidates that will support and enhancing parental rights, freedom, and freedom of religion as is stated in our constitution.

Thank You,

Alise P

Litchfield County