

February 28, 2019

Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

Dear Education Committee:

As a parent of public school students, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

When we moved to Connecticut 17 years ago, one of the reasons we did so was for the high-quality school system. Regionalization of our schools will erode the quality and character of our local schools, which will in turn erode the quality of our town. Our schools are one of the best assets Connecticut has, and it would be detrimental to tinker with a system that is working very well as is.

Regionalization may, or may not, save costs, but the quality of the schools will certainly decrease with larger schools and fewer administrators overseeing those larger schools. If you are truly concerned about Connecticut's budget crisis and saving costs, here are two options that are far superior to regionalization and would each have an immediate impact on Connecticut's financial situation: one, put every new state employee on a 401k plan (not a pension plan) and two, repeal the death tax so that Connecticut residents stop leaving in droves.

I sincerely hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Platt
New Canaan, CT