

## **Governor's Bill No. 607 and No.874**

To the Connecticut Legislature,

You will be voting on to bills that I urge you to reject, SB670, and SB874. These bills reduce funds to special education and require registration for homeschool children. Both of these bills negatively impact the education of children. Through reducing funds to special education, you are negatively impacting the students who are the most vulnerable, and in need of the most assistance. You are removing the funds from the educators who are in the most need of the additional assistance to make certain that those with learning disabilities receive the best education available. Through classroom overcrowding and lack of funding these teachers valiantly struggle every day. Do not make their jobs more difficult.

The required registration of homeschool is an unnecessarily invasion of privacy and a violation of the rights that are protected through the First, Fourth, Fifth, and Ninth Amendments of the US Constitution. From these amendments the courts have enumerated the rights of privacy. The required registration of homeschool children directly violates these rights and places families that have done no wrong and have not harmed their children in any way in the Department and Children and Families registration. My wife worked in the public education system for many years. It was, in part, the experiences that she had in that environment that informed our decision to home school our children. My oldest son is nine and has begun basic algebra. Yesterday after a trip to the library he read 3 books totaling over 600 pages. My middle son aged seven is able to receive the additional attention he needs to perform at or above his grade level that he would not receive in a public-school system. He receives this attention without additional societal burdens or stigma. My youngest son at five already is writing and reading and performing arithmetic at a level more advanced than his peers. This legislation is ill informed, fear based, and a violation of our Constitutionally protected rights. I urge you as legislators to do what is right. I urge you to soundly reject these bills for the public good, and because it is what is right and just. I appreciate your time and attention.

With Respect, Nathan K Prusi