

Dear Legislators,

I strongly oppose S.B. 457, 738 and 874 and all other similar attempts to erode what's left of the quality of life in the state of Connecticut. My job requires that I often travel outside CT and my wife works close enough to RI for us to live in RI. **THE ONLY REASON WE STAY IN CONNECTICUT** is the quality of the public schools our children attend. We made a calculated decision to move to the town of Lyme because the public school system had the qualities we valued. Over the years we have developed close friendships with the teachers at those schools. I hate to think how this shot in the dark experiment with our kids, teachers, and property values could go wrong. If you have children and plan on moving you pick a location that's affordable and that's close enough to your work. The second thing you check is the quality of the school. People will move out of state. People will enroll their kids in public schools. And as much as it hurts me to say, people will be forced to support federal and state legislation that would promote private school education over public. Your citizen/voter base that these proposed bills will affect are not likely to forget or get used to your vision of our children's education. Please read the many written testimonials and do not support these bills or any bills in the future that resemble them.

Sincerely,
Anthony Ramella
Regional School District 18
Lyme/Old Lyme