

February 28, 2019

To: Members of the Connecticut Education Committee

Subject: Opposition to SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874

As taxpayers and parents of former New Canaan public school students, we strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools!

We moved here for the schools, and existing school quality is what keeps us here. Subsidiarity is a principle of social organization that holds that social and political issues should be dealt with at the most immediate level that is consistent with their resolution. Regionalization erodes the quality and the character of our local schools, which erodes the quality of our town.

In case you have not read the news – people are leaving Connecticut and are not coming here because of high taxes. Regionalization will not save money, since lack of local control only increases costs. These bills will provide yet another reason for families not selecting to move to Connecticut, while driving more families out of Connecticut.

According to the American Legislative Exchange Council’s “Rich States, Poor States” analysis, Connecticut ranks 49th in economic performance during the past decade, and the state’s economic outlook ranks 46th among all 50 states. Regionalization certainly will not improve these dismal numbers!

We strongly urge you to oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874, and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

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