

Dear Members of the Education Committee. As a homeschooling parent here in the state of Connecticut I am writing to you in opposition to bill 874 in which to regulate homeschoolers.

The entire reason I choose to homeschool my kids rather than send them to a public school is so that I, the parent of my children can train and raise them up in the way that I see fit. In Connecticut we have been educating our children this way since the 1600s and it is not broken. We do not need to fix or "regulate" homeschoolers.

Let's look at some statistics, The National Home Education Research Institute reports" that children who are educated at home typically score 15 to 30% higher on standardized academic achievement tests, as well as scoring well above average on their SATs and ACTs. Not to mention homeschooled students graduated at a rate of 66.7% which is almost 10% higher than students in the traditional public school setting. Studies have also shown that homeschooled students consistently earned a higher GPA than other students in enrolled in the college." - <https://www.time4learning.com/homeschool/homeschoolstatistics.shtml#signif>

One thing I love about homeschooling is the flexibility. I can choose to use online programs, books from the local library, boxed curriculum sets, online databases. I can choose lessons and worksheets that I find work for each of my children rather than "box" them in to one set of learning. We have the opportunity to educate our children in a variety of ways with field trips, hands on workshops, play groups, apprenticeships and more. We do not need a framework to follow. Many parents have taken their children out of public schools that have failed their children and now they are to regularly check in with this school system? Why then must we adopt their "framework"? We must be doing something right to have such successful children! No. I strongly oppose any regulations and frameworks.

And last, but certainly not least, why would you support having homeschoolers "register" with the very system that even with the voluntary filing of the NOI has led to homeschoolers being wrongfully threatened, bullied, harassed and falsely reported to DCF. They misuse their authority!

Thank you for your understanding in my opposition to bill 874.

Sincerely,  
Aubrey Reynolds  
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