

To: Education Committee Board Members

I am writing to oppose SB 874, specifically Sections 17 and 18 as they pertain to homeschoolers. We are a home school family of three boys. I personally have my bachelors and Masters in Elementary education with a 6 year background as a classroom teacher and assistant principal. I take great joy in home schooling our children for many reasons. It is most exciting to see them grow and thrive and be able to help them “connect the dots” across the disciplines. They are well rounded children who “live everyday life.” This might mean grocery shopping, bringing a meal to someone in need, visiting the sick etc. Yet academically they have a book for every subject and the year isn’t over till we have completed the book and all associated activities.

This bill specifically is aimed at regulating our rights to educate our children. Connecticut has always been a home school friendly state, allowing us to enjoy the God given right to educate our children. Our country is founded on men who were home educated. Many even served as presidents of our great country. These regulations would be burdensome to home school families. We take great care and diligence in choosing curriculum that will best suit our children’s learning styles and needs. We use our own resources to attend conferences and purchase curriculum while still paying taxes for the schools we do not use. We do not want financial support from the state, but since we pay for a school system we do not use we should not be obliged to answer to them in any manner.

Please vote NO on these regulations and consider the rights of parents to educate their children how they see fit with an individualized educational plan tailored to their children’s learning styles and needs.

Grateful for your consideration,  
David and Gina Stewart  
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