

I strongly oppose sec. 17 and 18 of SB 874. I am Erin Tudisco from New London, CT. There is no need for this bill. Families have been homeschooling for centuries producing outstanding individuals that are both successful and professional persons in society. This is my choice. Studies have shown how differently people learn. Not just children, adults as well. There are many different schools of thought on how a child learns best, and who are you to say what my child needs? Do you remember kindergarten? I remember the love for learning through play. Now children sit in desks waiting for help, and the demands on the children are increasing EVERY YEAR! What about private schools, montessori's or Waldorf Steiner schools? Freedom in using their own system of learning is allowed. Why is that any different from homeschooling? Learning styles, teaching models, schooling styles are vast, it is impossible for school systems to address all the needs and learning styles of children in a growing classroom with minimal help. My eldest child was enrolled in our local magnet school, only to be pulled out because he was not adequately tended to for his needs. The schools were overpopulated and understaffed. I was in attendance most mornings for at least an hour, one morning in particular, children were sent to an alternate classroom because their teacher was in a meeting, and there was no one to cover her place. The alternate classroom was staffed with 1 teacher-1 teacher! As 45 students filed in. My child would come home depressed then explode with energy after a long day of sitting and only 20 minutes of recess. Children learn better if they can move. As do adults. A reason exercise is scientifically proven to improve brain function. Children are active curious creatures that need their questions answered and their curiosities tended to. I also know many teachers in the New London school system who have personally proclaimed they would not recommend sending their children to school in New London. My reasons for homeschooling are however to make sure my children's questions are answered, their curiosities explored and fostering growing relationships with both children and adults. Allow them freedom to learn in the way they are best capable, so no child is left behind! My son would often say, there was no time for socializing and making friends, and his many questions were never answered. He was left behind in the school system. My Child's spirit and blossoming personality were squashed, along with his love for learning and his confidence. Without confidence who is willing to learn? Also, my children WANT to be homeschooled! There is no reason for this bill. We homeschoolers have been schooling just fine without it. There is no reason or justification for it. I strongly oppose sec. 17 and 18 of SB 874--