

February 27, 2019

Dear Committee:

I oppose Sections 17 and 18 of SB 874. Such regulation measures are unnecessary and counterproductive. Existing law recognizes that parents have the right to train and raise their children. Connecticut is a draw for many homeschool families, as they are able to exercise discretion to appropriately educate their children using a variety of curriculum and teaching practices. Enforcing unnecessary regulation will only continue to force homeschool families to move to other states that rightly grant parental freedom in educational choices. Additionally, homeschool families in CT have consistently produced highly-educated students who have gone on to higher education, only to RETURN to CT to work and raise their own families.

The home-educated typically score 15 to 30 percentile points above public-school students on standardized academic achievement tests. (The public school average is the 50th percentile; scores range from 1 to 99.)

Homeschooling works as it is. This regulation is an infringement on parental rights, and I oppose it.

Please vote to remove Sections 17 and 18 from SB 874.

I am happy to answer any questions at any time.

Sincerely,
K. Turner, Farmington