

Written Testimony

SB 874 An Act Concerning Education Initiatives and Services in Connecticut

February 28, 2019

Good afternoon Senator Looney, Senator Duff, Representative Aresimowicz, Representative Ritter and members of the Education Committee. My name is Heather Victoria, parent of one 7th grader and one 9th grader, both who are thriving in their current educational program at Parish Hill Middle High School in Chaplin Connecticut. I am providing this written testimony to request that the proposed legislation be researched further. I also ask that the CT PTA has a representative on any task force created to conduct this research. Questions remain for concerned parents regarding the incentives that would be awarded and whether the proposals to consolidate, share services and/or regionalize districts would be voluntary or mandated. Living in a small Connecticut rural town was by choice and therefore sending our children to any other school but Parish Hill is unimaginable. I am personally concerned that savings upfront may not always result in long term savings especially considering the diverse needs of both children and communities. The unintended consequences could be more serious than what Connecticut faces now and a one size fits all approach to education is not fair or reasonable and ultimately will not effectively address Connecticut's fiscal concerns.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Victoria
Scotland resident