



**CONNECTICUT REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY**

**41 Crossroads Plaza, PMB 270**

**West Hartford, CT 06117**

March 2, 2020

*Testimony for HB 5221 An Act Concerning Public Education In Connecticut - Common Core  
HB 173 An Act Concerning Education Issues - Common Core.*

Dear Chairman McCrory, Sanchez, Vice Chair McCarty, Ranking Member Berthel and Members of the Education Committee,

It has come to my attention that much of the current process of the CT General Assembly usurps the Rights of the People of Connecticut; in fact that in suggested bills are often subjugated due to many suggested issues, yet we want the best for our State and for CT's future.

Great concerns exist in public education. One major issue has been the elephant in the living room as one can see that neither the State Board of Education nor Commissioner of Education, CAGE or CAPSS provides in its testimony: Common Core. Common Core has been a disastrous plague to our education system since 2012, and yet these entities have been "rearranging the deck chairs"--- nothing done to remedy this problem. In the past several months, I have attended State Board of Education monthly meetings and in Public Comment, provided the question to the Federal Education Plan - Every Student Succeeds Act, ESSA, expired November 30, 2019. Where does that leave us? No answer. Additionally, the US Department of Education, USED, has a plan put forth in October of 2019 referred to as Ed-Flex, a plan for States to have Flexibility in improving our public education. Still nothing from the State Board of Education, nor Commissioner -- no information as to the status of CT's Federal Plan. Could we be fined for not having a Federal Plan? Why no answer?

I am hopeful that the ED Committee will take serious thought to the situation of our public education system; Common Core needs to be removed and the remedy would be to allow local districts control of their education system, control which existed before Common Core State Standards. Local school districts could then look to manage developmentally appropriate academics once again. Work to remove Common Core and return education to the teachers and children.

God Bless,

Anne Manusky  
First Vice President, CTRA  
Easton, CT