

Dear Members of the Appropriations Committee:

My name is Therese Eke, and I live in Milford, CT.

The equity and education gap in CT, and the consequent segregation of our schools, is the worst in the nation - a record of which we should be ashamed.

I am horrified by the provisions in the proposed budget for education, that includes cuts in funding to schools in Bridgeport, and adds funding for schools in Westport.

We have so much work to do to address the inequity our education system promotes. The last thing we should be doing is reducing funding for schools in desperate need, and reverting to our old, comfortable habits of inequality and de facto racism.

Please search your hearts and look to your calling to public service. Provide for those most in need, and help all of us achieve a brighter, more fully realized future in this state by fulfilling the potential of all our students, not just the white and wealthy ones.

Sincerely, Therese Eke