



**Connecticut Education Association**

Capitol Place, Suite 500  
21 Oak Street, Hartford, CT 06106  
860-525-5641 | cea.org

**Governance**

Kate Dias, President  
Joslyn DeLancey, Vice President  
Tara Flaherty, Secretary  
Stephanie Wanzer, Treasurer

**Executive Director**

Todd Jaeck

*Testimony of*

***Connecticut Education Association***

*Before the Government Administration and Elections Committee*

Re:

**HB 6850 An Act Concerning Revisions to the Freedom of Information Act Concerning the  
Nondisclosure of the Addresses of Certain Public Agency Employees**

**February 7, 2025**

Representative Blumenthal, Senator Flexer and members of this esteemed committee, my name is Kate Dias, and I am the President of Connecticut Education Association (CEA). CEA represents educators in over 150 school districts across Connecticut.

I submit testimony today in support of HB 6850.

Over the past few years, we have observed increasing numbers of incidents of incivility directed toward educators. Educators have endured hateful messages, threats, and false accusations for baseless reasons that are beyond comprehension. This incivility has resulted in untenable working conditions and many teachers simply leaving the profession. In many cases, teachers are fearful that perpetrators of incivility will take their threats one step further. We understand that public employees in other sectors are experiencing similar unsettling and threatening behaviors. It is for this reason that we support withholding the addresses of public employees from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

---

Additionally, we ask legislators to also withhold the personal telephone numbers of public employees from disclosure under FOIA. Perpetrators of threatening behavior use social media, phone calls, and physical intimidation to carry out their abuse. Withholding phone numbers from public disclosure would also help protect public employees from unconscionable and threatening actions.

Thank you.