

From: [Debbie Kelly](#)
To: [Board of Representatives](#)
Subject: Concern over proposed limits on public comments
Date: Monday, January 5, 2026 8:49:31 PM

To Members of the Board of Representatives,

I was extremely concerned to hear that the Board of Reps is considering limiting the public's ability to speak at meetings. Not speaking on a topic more than once? Not speaking up more than 3 times per year? Not saying anything perceived to be "disparaging" about elected officials, even if no name is provided, with it being open to interpretation and the opinion of one person - the President?

You are a body of elected officials in a city - not a private organization. We live in a democratic society. Yet you want to limit free speech of the people who elected you? This seems like a troubling direction and a slippery slope. Whatever existing problems the group is trying to address or avoid should be handled another way. The solution is not to try to permanently muzzle public opinion.

I sincerely hope that this is a short lived conversation and not something that will move beyond initial discussion.

Thank you,
Debbie Kelly
District 16

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From: [Rebecca \(Becky\) Hamman](#)
To: [BOR AllReps](#); [Montalvo, Barbara](#)
Cc: [Hamman, Rebecca](#); [George, Andy](#); [BOE.Elected@stamfordpublicschools.org](#); [Becky Hamman](#); [joe BOEP Andreana](#)
Subject: Board of Education Colleague Request to Drop BOR Amendment LR32.005
Date: Monday, January 5, 2026 7:18:44 PM

Dear Board of Representatives,

I OPPOSE the Board of Rep speech restrictions in LR32.005.

Like the Board of Education, the BOR, too, is an elected body where you should not ban public speech. The first Amendment gives public the right to ‘petition the government for a redress of grievances’. There should never be a limit on how many times a person can speak either.

1.Volunteering on the Board of Education, my priority is to support our students, not a political party.

And although I’m sponsored by a party, my obligation is to supervise our superintendent and implement policy so we as a governing body can support our education system in Stamford. In order to support our teaching and learning programs, we thrive on listening to our constituents—be it parents, teachers, administrators, interested citizens, and most important, our students. I would never take that privilege away from any taxpayer that helps make Stamford, The City that Works. As Stamfordites, we spent approximately \$21,000 per student annually. This is worth my attention.

2.Although we have guidelines for the public when they speak, we have to sit there and listen. It is our duty. It is our obligation. The truth we need to hear is in the details

from every person that shares their concerns, compliments or story. Because my first priority is our students, the truth stated may even wake me up and cause me to 'rethink' my views. This is the beauty of democracy. Please don't silence the public.

3.After Charlie Kirk was assassinated this fall, I walked in a Stamford peace rally to share how strongly I believed in Free Speech. My poster read:

**We NEED FREE SPEECH...TRUE DEMOCRACY
REQUIRES DEBATE!**

4.Please listen to one of your fellow colleagues from the Board of Education. We are simply volunteers who are elected to help discern what is best for the decision at hand. I listen because it is my duty to help others...we cannot 'be above the law' and silence someone's passion or truth. We ultimately are elected to help govern and bring hope to the arena we are working in.

**Please don't silence anyone...we are 'hope makers and visionaries' for the future of Stamford.
Amendment LR32.005 should be dropped immediately.**

**Thank you...Dr. Rebecca Hamman, Elected Board of
Education Member (2019-Present)**

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