

Bill 457 and Bill 738

I am writing to express my strong objection to the proposals to regionalize CT schools. While consolidation and regionalization is worth exploration, it needs to be done with a detailed cost/benefit analysis by the interested towns and not forced upon them. While I am a strong advocate for the state's need to make some major cost reductions, this is one of the worst ideas I've heard. With all the investment costs that will be required, how much if any savings can actually be achieved? I am also adamantly opposed to additional bus time and negative impacts on the students. Our teachers are already unfairly burdened by all of the cutbacks and increasing mandatory responsibilities that continue to pile on. One thing you should be taking a hard look at is reducing the excessive unfunded mandates that keep getting imposed on town schools. These and the new proposals are obviously the work of people who have no idea of how their decisions have such a negative impact on these schools, teachers, students and towns - or they just don't care.

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