

Opposing: Forced School Regionalization SB738, SB457, SB874 & SB 454

Dear Governor Lamont,

I have been a homeowner in Ridgefield Connecticut since 1994. My husband & I are raising our three children here and they attend excellent, small schools where they are taught by highly educated professionals. In order to afford this community, we commute great distances (New Jersey, NYC) --but we are committed to these exceptional schools and our small community. We expect that our home will sell one day, to someone for the same reasons, however, your regionalization bills are putting that - as well as the quality of our schools - in jeopardy.

Your school regionalization bills are concerning for many reasons. Student time on buses will increase as well as transportation costs. Budgets, teachers, and services will be stretched which will ultimately result in reduced student scores & GPA's. This will very quickly affect the quality rating that our schools and town currently possess. This puts our property values in jeopardy. Interestingly these bills do not state that school regionalization would increase the quality of education to our students. US News & World Report recently ranked Ridgefield High School #5 in Connecticut, behind 4 private school academies - this is exceptional. Your responsibility to us is to ensure that nothing jeopardizes the quality of our school system & our children's education - and therefore these bills must not be passed.

I oppose SB 738

I oppose SB 457

I oppose SB 874

I oppose SB 454

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane Pisanelli
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