

Dear Education and Appropriations Committee,
I am a homeowner in Wilton, CT and ask that you do not move ahead with the proposed bill to regionalize CT schools.
SB 738 SB 457

I choose Wilton, CT because of the school district. I live in a very small home which I paid a lot of money for to allow my children to receive an excellent education. There is no empirical evidence to validate that school regionalization leads to cost savings. In fact, research by the National Education Policy Center concluded that benefits from school district consolidation are "vastly overestimated." Further, an article in Education Finance and Policy suggested that district consolidation may actually create negative impacts such as higher transportation costs, a "leveling up" of salaries, and more negative attitudes among staff members and parents. Also, regionalizing the schools in CT will have a negative affect on home prices. I am counting on selling my home for at least what I paid for it to assist in my retirement. We are not a family that lives in a McMansion and cannot afford to take a loss on our home. Reducing the value of my home would severely affect my ability to retire.

Please listen to the taxpayers of Wilton, CT and do not regionalize the schools in CT.

Thank you,
Margaret Sullivan
9 Newsome Lane
Wilton, CT 06897
203-829-1844