

Senate Bill 457 An Act Concerning the size of School Districts
Senate Bill 738 An Act Concerning the creation of Regional School Districts

From: Melanie Yanus
Clinton, Connecticut

If the purpose of regionalization is to save money, the end result may not materialize. Upon review of other states regionalizing school districts there were mixed results. Costs of infrastructure, demand for more buses and/or need for same amount of teachers negated savings. If larger class sizes, fewer teachers and long bus rides for students is carried out, the end results for some districts is fewer graduating, more dropouts and more students falling behind the cracks. Negative effect on student achievement as well. With smaller class sizes, teachers are better able to get to know their students and can build strong relationships. Also a negative effect is a changed sense of community. Schools bring the community together. A sense of belonging for many. Local businesses loss business when schools no longer exist in their community. The economics of our communities depend on people moving to the communities that meet their needs including providing local schools in the community. Let's let the communities have their own conversation about regionalization.