

I oppose the Senate Bill 738 as it is written "realign those towns with a total population of fewer than forty thousand", etc. I am not opposed to regionalization. I live in Easton, CT and feel that regionalization can work. It should be the decision of the towns to formalize any school redistricting. The state could support a campaign to regionalize districts by providing metrics to each district to analyze the efficiency. The state can provide guidelines and processes to regionalize to support the efforts of the individual towns. It should not be mandated or legislated based on population or school size.

Connecticut is facing one of the most challenging times in its history, and education and healthcare are the most positive attractions in our state. Connecticut is one of the highest states for outward migration in the country for obvious reasons and the continued exodus is seriously impacting the financial health of the state.

The good news is that young people who have left the state are starting to return to Connecticut as family formation begins in order to provide their children with a high level of education. A simple

news story about regionalization has stopped several " would be"return residents in their tracks. Let's not put up any impediments to that trend.

The very mention of mandated school redistricting has already impacted the sale of homes throughout the state. Single family home sales were down 26% in January, year over bad year. It is not the time to rip apart our schools by mandates.

Respectfully,

Candace Adams

President/CEO Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices