

Senate Bill 738

Forced Regionalization of Public Schools.

Dear Governor Lamont,

I read your proposal towards the forced regionalization of school districts within the state.

While I understand your desire to save money, I must question your methods in this instance. It appears that what you are doing is attempting to take even more control away from the parents and centralize it within the State. If you move forward with this plan, you will force parents to give up control of where they choose to send their kids for school. The parents are the ones that know their children better than anyone, and know what will be the best options for their children.

If you move forward with this plan, you will take away the limited choices parents have. In more rural areas of the state, you will also compel some of the children to spend an inordinate amount of time on the vehicles. Right now, parents have the choice by becoming involved with local school boards and have a say in all matters including budgetary matters. You will take that choice away, and make it harder for parents to stay involved in their children's education. I find that especially ironic at a time like now when so many children need their parents involved, and teachers are asking, almost begging, the parents to stay connected and involved.

If you move forward with this, you might force certain districts to adhere to your cost savings plan, but you will end up costing them more with travel time for children, less choice for parents, and potentially less involvement by the parents.

I must express my strong disapproval of this plan.

Catherine Brooks.

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