

Oppose bills numbered S.B. 874 S.B. No. 754/738

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None of these bills will benefit students. They will be on buses for a longer time period, they will be losing their free time on buses and there will be additional social and emotional stress placed on them.

While there are many important reasons to oppose the concept of forced regionalization, including potential degradation of education quality, and concerns about property values, there is no empirical evidence to validate that such a move actually 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.

The same study suggests that financial benefits may be found only when consolidation of very small districts (fewer than 300 to 1000 students) occurs.

These bills will likely result in higher taxes in municipalities that are struggling to keep costs and taxes down for their residents.

Please vote against them

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