

Hello,

My name is Elyza Learned and I am a senior at Lyme-Old Lyme High School. I am sending this testimony in regards to Senate Bill 457, Senate Bill 738, and Governor's Bill SB 874. Growing up in a small town has been such a wonderful experience. I love knowing the fact that I can name almost every single person in my school. I have had some of my friends since kindergarten and couldn't imagine my life without them. As a student at a small school you know that the teachers really care about you and your education. I feel that if Connecticut was to regionalize and create larger school districts it would be detrimental to not only the education but to the well-being of the students within them. Even though I am graduating in June, I would hate to know that all of my underclassmen friends would have to leave the district that they have called home for over a decade. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion and I hope that you make a wise choice for the future of Connecticut's students.

Thank you,

Elyza Learned