

Re: Bill 457 and Bill 738

These bills forcing regionalization in Connecticut school districts is sheer Loonacy (pun intended)! These incontrovertible seven points below comprise a slam dunk case against forced regionalization of our school districts because this folly would create:

1. **Less time in the classroom and more time on the bus**, especially in rural areas where proposed districts would be very large geographically.
2. **Wasted taxpayer investments in new and newly renovated schools.** If your town just invested in a new school renovation, it may now be all for nothing if the school no longer fits the needs of a regional school district.
3. **Potential new costs to build new schools to meet regional needs.**
4. **Dramatic increases in busing expenses for towns and cities.** While the state used to pay for busing costs, towns and cities are now solely responsible for those costs.
5. **Raised concerns about how to preserve quality of education.**
6. **Loss of teaching positions.** If towns are forced to consolidate, this could impact number of teachers and classrooms.
7. **Loss of local control over school decision making.** Forcing regionalization leaves little room for towns, cities and local residents to have a say in what happens.

No to forced regionalization!

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