

Re: senate bill 457, senate bill 738, governor's bill SB 874

We are strongly opposed to the above bills for region 18. Our local schools are excellent: splitting them up to create bigger schools where students would endure long bus rides and would be part of a massive school population is false economy. Students would lose the personal connection they have with their teachers, and our community would lose the ability to manage the education of our own children. We are strongly opposed to the state forcing this change upon us with no data to support their actions. Furthermore, this action would have wider effects because many residents have chosen to move here specifically because of the smaller schools. People may leave the area if that changes so it would have negative effects on our community's economy and would completely change the nature of the local area.

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