

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to let you know I strongly oppose the idea of forced regionalization of schools. I oppose senate bill 738 & senate bill 457.

Senate Bill 738 would regionalize schools based on the state's Probate Court Districts.

Senate Bill 457 would require any school district with a student population of fewer than two thousand students to join a new or an existing regional school district.

People elect to move to specific towns for certain reasons with one of those being educational reasons. I don't think there has been enough thought into; the cost of busing, new teacher contracts, elimination of current regions, teacher tenure, municipalities who currently work together because of current districts, how schools from current districts will be divided, and many other factors besides money. I know many people from region 15 and around the state of CT strongly oppose the idea of regionalization. My wife and I are two of those people. Breaking up school districts that already work together to put them with towns who are not bordering towns or who do not currently share common interests as municipalities is an idea which is not well thought out. Please do your due diligence as elected officials. Do not just look at the budget. Think about how this will affect parents, educators, and most of all students.

I grew up going to the region 15 schools. I know the positive relationship people of southbury and middlebury have developed.

Please listen to the voice of people who will be affected and not just the towns/cities who will not be affected at all.

Sean Warren