



Town of Morris
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Dear Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit my testimony in opposition to SB-738. As a person who attended our local schools from K-12, as an active parent of 3 students in our Regional School District, and being a First Selectman of a small town, I feel I have a unique perspective on how our Regional School District works. It works well and has worked well since 1953. I am not opposed to RSD 6 becoming a larger school district someday, but I feel that this bill represents forced regionalization and this should not be forced upon the towns and districts that are doing an excellent job controlling costs and watching out for every dollar.

This bill does not take into account the Union contracts in place, the extra cost of busing, the consolidation of buildings issue and what to do with regional district owned buildings when they will no longer be needed. If the drafters of this bill feel bigger is better, then please look to the big cities that benefit from increased ECS monies and see how efficiently these large districts operate.

RSD 6 already shares services and student opportunities with other school systems and is looking to expand this cooperation even more to benefit our children. I urge you to work with the towns and cities to foster greater cooperation and more shared opportunities instead of forcing consolidation and taking away the reasons why families have come to live in our towns and having their children attend our schools.

Thank you for your time and please reject SB-738.

Tom Weik
First Selectman
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