

Subject: Senate Bills 457 & 738; Governor's Bill 874

I'm dead set against this hair-brained idea of separating Lyme and Old Lyme school systems through school redistricting. These two towns have had an excellent working relationship for years which has provided outstanding educations for the students. To separate the two towns by this measure is ludicrous. As I look at the proposed map, it appears that Lyme students will be bussed across the CT River. Please correct me if I'm wrong, but as I see it we will be separating students with established friendships in LOL and tossing them across the river, probably on an extended bus ride to lash up with a whole new group with whom they have no ties or relationships. Lyme student wants to work on a school project with a classmate? Get in the car, kid, we have to take a ride across the river. What are you thinking? If this must be done, go back to the drawing board and use some common sense which seems to be lacking here.

The Executive and Legislature have made a complete mess of this State with taxes and anti-business atmosphere over the last few decades and we are the laughing stock of most of the country along with three or four other states which need not be named. This is one more example of difunctional government. Who's benefitting from this; teachers unions, government employee unions? Certainly not the students. Whenever I hear the government tell me we're going to save money, I find over the long haul it winds up costing us more.

I'll be voting "NO" if I am given the opportunity, and I should be given the opportunity. This should not be a proclamation handed down from high.

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