

Hello,

Thank you for accepting my testimony regarding the Senate Bills 457 and 738 as well as Governor's bill 874 as both my wife and I will be working during the hearing..

Frankly I am shocked to hear that the elected officials of this state would propose this legislation. My 2 children who attend the Lyme/Old Lyme Public schools would literally be "Forced" to attend another, regionalized school potentially in a different town... Many things about this scare me including:

- School buses loaded with children of all ages on Interstate 95! Really? Absolutely no need for that. The are from and including the Baldwin bridge through East Lyme is an absolute death trap. Adding in more slower moving vehicles will absolutely result in deaths – I don't think anyone wants that..
- A significant change in quality of life
 - More travel time to and from new school
 - This will effect after school activities and sports programs – Our kids need to be able to participate in this for growth and health!
 - Having to get to know new administrators
 - Having to make new friends
 - One child could be in a school in one town and the other in a separate town?
- Property values will decline further! There will be no advantage to living in a small town.
- Schools systems have made plans and budgets for the futures of their towns which will now not matter.. If our tax payers have voted on and approved budget to build ne facilities and they are now going to be used by nobody or by those who have not paid, that is completely unfair...

Thank you for allowing me to speak my mind here.

Kind regards,

Kurt Kleefeld
Old Lyme