

Testimony regarding Bill #'s 738, 457 & 874

Good morning,

I am writing to voice my position against the regionalization of school districts in Connecticut, which would be passed under Bill #'s 738, 457 & 874.

Myself, like most of my neighbors, moved to Monroe in part based on the reputation of the Monroe School District. I feel that by regionalizing smaller districts throughout Connecticut it will encourage more citizens to leave the state and deter potential new citizens from moving in.

Most people move to smaller towns because they like the sense of community that comes along with it. They enjoy going to a school function and knowing the majority of the people in attendance. You will lose that sense of community when you have multiple towns forced to participate together in turn causing people to leave so that they can seek that sense of community that they long for.

Also, it does not seem as if any of the schools in surrounding towns to Monroe have schools large enough to accommodate a merger. The regionalization option seems as if it would cause significantly more money be spent expanding for the consolidation. The cost for fuel and maintenance of the buses would also be higher when the buses are traveling at least twice the distance each day.

I believe that we should find better alternatives in our attempt to save the state money and not overcrowd and overburden our children.

Thank you.

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