

Representative Peggy Sayers 60th District
Representative David Baram 15th District
Representative Elaine O'Brien 61st District

July 20, 2011

Dear Members of the Legislature's Reapportionment Committee,

As you know, we are members of the House of Representatives. Included in our House Districts are areas of the Town of Windsor. The reality of creating legislative districts requires many towns to have multiple representatives. The greater Hartford region poses difficult challenges as Hartford's population decreased, some suburbs gained in population, and various ethnic and racial groups increased in population. While we appreciate that this Committee will do its best to be fair to all towns, we wanted to reassure you that under the existing District schematic we have represented Windsor well and have given it a strong voice in the Legislature.

During our terms of office, we have involved ourselves in every aspect of the Town of Windsor. Usually we attend functions and events together, and coordinate closely in advocating for local interests. Windsor is as important to each of us, as are all our District communities. That is why we believe that we have earned the respect and strong support of Windsor residents.

In today's world of interdependence, this can be beneficial, as we find ourselves working together to promote common interests. Towns divided among several districts with multiple representatives can benefit in the following ways:

- a. Residents have more legislators to appeal to when issues or concerns arise;
- b. Legislators representing the same town customarily collaborate and work together to get results or advocate for the town;
- c. Chances are that one of your legislators, either by way of committee assignments, professional background, or experience will be better suited to address a particular issue;
- d. Multiple legislators and the particular alliances or networks that each may have among other legislators, create far more clout and power than a single representative;
- e. Given limited time and many demands, a team of representatives can divide responsibilities in achieving targeted results for their town constituents.

That is why States seek to have more Representatives in Congress, and many Towns prefer more Representatives in the Legislature. In Connecticut each of our thirty-six State Senators also represent many communities. More local representation

usually translates into greater access and increased clout. There is no local issue that goes without our full attention and effort.

Representing multiple towns can also provide legislators a broader perspective and more diverse input. It helps create new ideas by comparing communities and their approaches. A Representative can learn from his or her diverse constituents and we believe that makes for more insightful and thoughtful representation.


More often than not, we find that there is much interaction between our towns. There are many demographic similarities, and many people who live in one town work in the other, or belong to organizations or religious institutions whose members come from many of our joint communities.

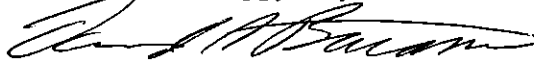
In today's society, it is the commitment, dedication, and involvement of a Representative that is most important. Regardless where we might live, we have fully embraced the Town of Windsor with our hearts, passion, commitment and enthusiasm.

Many issues today are not limited to one town. Issues of budget, environment, transportation, social services, public safety, are typically germane to most towns. District lines have less to do with these global issues which demand the main attention of the legislature. Nevertheless, we are extremely attentive to local matters, and whenever such issues arise, we can be relied upon to be vocal advocates for our Windsor constituents. Working with the local officials and staff allows us to be partners in advocating local positions. We solicit constituent views, attend as many local functions as possible, and regularly hear from local residents.

We thank you for your time and hard work. Your task is complicated and formidable but we have confidence in your judgment.

Very truly yours,


Representative Peggy Sayers


Representative David Baram


Representative Elaine O'Brien