

Testimony Before the Reapportionment Committee
September 14, 2021

Members of the Reapportionment Committee,

My name is Jennie Wong, and I have been a resident of Wilton, Connecticut, since July 2013. Before settling in Wilton, my husband and I lived in Stamford, Connecticut. We chose to move to Wilton, Connecticut, so our children grew up in a small suburban-town setting, with access to nature and excellent schools.

After living in Wilton, CT, and getting to know our community, we realized that the 143rd district faces wildly divergent interests, whether in transportation, zoning, or education. I discovered that my district, the 143rd district, consists of Wilton and of Norwalk, with each occupying 43%-47%. Norwalk, with a population close to 89,000 people, is the sixth most populous city, where as Wilton's entire population is only over 18,000. Norwalk is a large urban city, while Wilton is a suburban small town. The demographics of Wilton and Norwalk are not comparable, and the interests of Wilton constituents are incompatible with that of the Norwalk constituents. These conflicting interests within the 143rd district have made it nearly impossible for our state representative to represent her constituents' interests fully, whether they reside in Wilton or Norwalk, Connecticut.

Currently, Wilton is the largest municipality without a resident State Senator or State Representative. Furthermore, Wilton is the largest municipality in Connecticut, split into multiple districts, none of which makes up 50% of the district. Finally, as Article 3, Sec. 4 of the Legislative Department stated, "For the purpose of forming assembly districts no town shall be divided except for the purpose of forming assembly districts wholly within the town."

I am writing to ask that the Committee separate Wilton and Norwalk communities that make up the current 143rd district into two different districts. I believe Wilton should not have to be split to make other districts complete.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my testimony and your consideration of this matter.

Regards,
Jennie Wong
Wilton, CT