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Testimony before the Reapportionment Committee (Virtual Hearing)
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Good evening, Members of the Reapportionment Committee. My name is Peter Wrampe, and I would like to congratulate you on addressing the reapportionment of the 143rd CT House district and for giving me a chance to testify.

I have been a resident of Wilton for 42 years and plan to be one for the coming years. During the first 20 to 30 years, Wilton and Norwalk voters accounted for slightly more than three-quarters of the district, with 60% in Wilton and 40% in Norwalk. Voting by the representative that reflected the interest of both was a manageable challenge.

Today, this is no longer so. It became much more of a challenge after the redistricting in 2012. The majority of Wilton remained in the district, while the portion of Norwalk grew, and a small part of Westport was added. But both towns were and are different. Norwalk is a city with significant representation in Hartford while Wilton is a small, rural town without a direct voice.

Our current representative tries to represent both the city interests of Norwalk and the small-town interests of Wilton. It must be stressful for our representative to advocate for the distinctly different interests of both Wilton and Norwalk at the same time. This should not be: One cannot serve two masters simultaneously. Why? Because both Wilton and Norwalk face substantially different issues, concerns, and desires from their citizens. Both should have their own representative dedicated to representing the interests of their respective constituents in the House, both advocating for their residents' distinctly different needs.

Since Wilton's voice is lost in the noise, I respectfully ask you to reapportion the 143rd district to have the best representation for both Norwalk and Wilton by separating them and placing Wilton into a district with another small town that has similar issues and interests.

Thank you for listening and your service to Connecticut and this bi-partisan committee. I hope and trust that you will give Wilton's situation the support it deserves.

Peter Wrampe
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