September 14, 2021 Prasad Iyer Wilton, CT

## Testimony before the Reapportionment Committee (Virtual Hearing)

Good evening to the Members of the Reapportionment Committee.

My name is Prasad Iyer. I have lived in Wilton with my family since 2005 and worked in Wilton from 2002 to 2004. I appreciate the opportunity to testify regarding the redistricting of CT 143<sup>rd</sup> house district.

I have learned that the Town of Wilton is the largest municipality without its own senator or representative in Hartford. Instead we have shared representation with the City of Norwalk.

The issue at hand is that these two communities have very different profiles (AdvanceCT Wilton Profile; AdvanceCT Norwalk Profile) and in order for them to grow and prosper they have very different needs. Because of this it is important that these two communities have separate and focused representation in Hartford so that the issues specific to these communities are addressed adequately rather than being forced to accept - "split the difference" and the difference really are not meaningful due to the significantly different needs.

The problem gets compounded, as neither community is able to make progress in the current scenario as they are <u>not appropriately represented</u> and it inhibits the ability of Hartford to drive and benefit from <u>diversity of thinking and action</u>.

In light of this I strongly encourage the committee to redistrict Wilton and Norwalk in such a way that both these communities can have focused and local representation to bring about the change and diversity at Hartford to enable these communities to grow and prosper quickly to their full potential.

Sincerely Prasad lyer