Testimony before the Reapportionment Committee

September 14, 2021

Dear Distinguished Members of the Reapportionment Committee

My name is Toni Boucher. I write to add my comments to the Redistricting of 143 District after the last census.

I was previously the State Representative for the 143rd district from January 1997-2009 before representing the towns of Wilton, Westport, Weston, Redding, Bethel, Ridgefield, and New Canaan in the State Senate from 2009-2019. During my 12 years in the House, I represented the town of New Canaan and the city of Norwalk in addition to Wilton. I became very familiar with and learned of the marked differences and divergent and often contradictory interests within these various communities over this 22-year period. The current configuration of the 143 does not serve these communities well.

Please also consider that the population of Wilton grew 2 percent, from 18,062 to 18503; the CT House has 151 members, and each member/district represents about 22,600 residents; Wilton is the largest municipality without a resident Senator or State Rep; and, most importantly, Wilton is the largest municipality split into multiple districts, none of which are 50% or more of the district.

The CT constitution - Article 3, Sec. 4 states "For the purpose of forming assembly districts no town shall be divided except for the purpose of forming assembly districts wholly within the town." See Article 3 below.

"SEC. 4. The house of representatives shall consist of not less than one hundred twenty-five and not more than two hundred twenty-five members, each of whom shall be an elector residing in the assembly district from which he is elected. Each assembly district shall be contiguous as to territory and shall elect no more than one representative. For the purpose of forming assembly districts no town shall be divided except for the purpose of forming assembly districts wholly within the town".

It is my hope that you will agree that Wilton should not be split up to make other districts complete. Wilton should have its own resident representative. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Most respectfully,

Toni Boucher 5 Wicks End Lane Wilton, CT 06897