I am a Reading, Vt resident. Recently we had the vote on Act 46 and the town voted "no" on the merger. I am unable to go to Montpelier but would like to let the House Committee know that increased flexibility for mergers would be beneficial to a small town like ours. The voters have stated that merging with Woodstock may not be in the best interest for our town. We would like more time to be able to join with other towns to brain storm options that would be best for us. We were previously unable, as I understand it, to join another committee while working with the current committee. I believe that rule in itself is unreasonable. Why can't the community research multiple options at the same time? It would be helpful to be able to have more time to do this without the pressure of a 30 day revote.

Please pass this on, if you are able, that there are many residents in our town and many surrounding towns that are requesting additional time to research something as important as the future of our town. The school has been the hub of our community and it is important to look at all options. Thank you,