

Subject: Concerned resident - Proposed Grand Isle redistricting map - Opposed

Dear Representatives and Senators,

I am writing as a constituent and parent from the Town of Grand Isle to share concerns about the proposed draft district map and its impact on families in southern Grand Isle County.

While I understand the intent to promote equity, the current map does not reflect the geographic realities, transportation routes, and employment patterns that shape daily life for families in our community.

We are (were) planning on choosing a Chittenden County high school for our daughter when she comes of age because my wife works in Chittenden County. My daughter has occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy and is on a basketball team all of which is in Chittenden County. The schools identified on the draft map do not reflect these long-standing, practical choices.

Chittenden County schools are closer and more accessible for families. Redirecting students would create longer commutes, increased transportation challenges, and daily disruptions that affect work schedules, after-school care, and family stability.

Most families in southern Grand Isle County work in Chittenden County. School placements that pull families in the opposite direction create real logistical and economic hardship and disproportionately impact working families.

I respectfully urge you to revise the draft map so that families in South Hero and the Town of Grand Isle retain the option to send their children to South Burlington, Colchester, or Essex schools. This flexibility supports students' families and the long-term health of our community.

Thank you for your time and for considering the voices of the families who are directly affected.

Sincerely,

Christopher Olah

Grand Isle