

Subject: Concern about the effects of Act 73 on our children and more

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:29 PM

My name is Dustin Ray and I am a parent of five children, and also a member of the Strafford School Board in the WRVSU.

In our Supervisory Union, I've seen how close relationships and local knowledge directly improve outcomes for students. Administrators know our schools, our families, and our communities. When a problem arises, it's addressed quickly—often before it becomes a larger issue.

As districts grow larger, decision-making becomes more centralized and less responsive. Policies that may work in urban or suburban settings often don't translate well to rural communities like ours. Distance—both geographic and relational—makes it harder for students and families to be seen and heard.

I'm concerned that Act 73 could unintentionally weaken what already works well in smaller Supervisory Unions. I urge you to protect local governance structures that allow schools to remain responsive, connected, and student-centered—especially in rural Vermont.

Thanks for your time and for all that you do for our state.

Sincerely,

Dustin