

Valued Representatives

I am writing to express my opposition to Transportation Bill #6236. I am resident of South Kingstown and made the decision to send my two daughters to the Meadowbrook Waldorf School. My family is not wealthy and sending both daughters to the Waldorf school was a carefully considered decision based on our values. We have made financial sacrifices to support that decision.

Threatening the free access to bussing between our home district of South Kingstown to the proposed, separate district of Richmond would be a disappointment and cause hardship. My wife and I both work full time jobs and depend on bussing for transportation to/from the Waldorf School. Until two years ago, South Kingstown offered bus service that would circulate through our neighborhood. Our daughters were able to walk to/from the bus stop. Recently, South Kingstown consolidated bus stops. We, along with several other families, drive 10-12 minutes to a group-stop. That transition was disappointing and a retraction of service; a withdrawal of previously established routine. The proposed changes contained in Transportation Bill #6236 would further erode the level of support offered by our town, and by extension the financial backing of our state legislature.

We would like our tax dollars to support our local public schools. And we would like our tax dollars, town and state tax dollars, to support the bussing of our children to the schools of our choosing.

I would also like to highlight that bus service for our children reduces road congestion. The proposed transportation bill would increase individual drivers and drive carbon emissions in the wrong direction.

Respectfully,
Todd Gregory