

Request to the General Court regarding Redistricting.

10/18/2021

To the NH Redistricting Committee

For every Gilmanton resident who pays a tax bill, the fattest part of that bill is for education. When we pay that bill, it is like being forced to buy expensive new shoes, or a fancy bicycle. Since we must educate our children, we can take pride in that purchase, because it is for our children and their futures.

But the situation is this: For the same service of education, the Alton resident must only buy an average priced pair of shoes, or a discount store bicycle. They get the same result but pay less money. I feel differently about this situation as a resident of Gilmanton than a similarly situated resident of Alton. The policies of the State impact us differently, so we are very likely to have different views on this subject.

It is a disease of the current Political climate that we can look at something that has a plain truth on its face and call it its opposite. Following the path of redistricting as it has proceeded up until now would be an example of doing exactly that.

I would like to join the Gilmanton Select Board in urging the New Hampshire General Court to conduct redistricting to ensure fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters without gerrymandering. I also join them in further urging the General Court to carry out the redistricting in a fair and transparent way through public meetings, without favoring any particular party, and to include communities of interest and to minimize multi-seat districts.

Yours Truly

Nathaniel Abbott, Gilmanton NH  
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