

I have lived in Deerfield since 1972. Up until 2002, Deerfield had its own House District and its own State Representative. He...or she...was a resident of Deerfield. He knew Deerfield well. He understood the issues affecting our town. He was an active contributor to the community. He was well respected. He was chosen by the people of Deerfield to be their Representative.

That is no longer the case. Since 2002, our State Representatives have been chosen by the majorities in our multi-town district, not necessarily by a majority of Deerfield residents. For example, we have had individuals run repeatedly for Deerfield town offices such as School Board and Select Board and each time they have lost. They are well-known in town and are not elected to these positions. And yet, these same individuals go on to become our State Representatives. Why? Because they are **not** known in the other towns; they are elected based on their party rather than their accomplishments or their integrity. This is not right.

It is time to return to our town of Deerfield our Constitutional right to have our own single District and a State Representative that is chosen by our own residents.

Bernadette Cameron  
Deerfield