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Greetings, co-chairs Rep. Haddad and Sen. Kelly, and all the members of the Reapportionment Committee. My name is Steven Erlingheuser, and I would like to propose maps for the required decennial redistricting for Congress, the State Senate, and the State House. Drawing map proposals has been a hobby of mine over the past few years, as I have hoped to eliminate gerrymandered maps, and this hobby has strongly helped me learn what goes into making a fair map. First, I would like to note that the maps I draw tend to focus on compactness and retaining communities of interest, while attempting to minimize municipal splits as much as possible. [As there is no county-level government in the state of Connecticut, I did not factor counties into the map proposals I submit today, like I would normally do with most other states in the US.] As a result, my maps are not drawn to favor political parties or incumbent legislators. By minimizing municipal splits and retaining communities of interest, I hope to let people choose their legislators, not the other way around.

That being said, I would like to start off with my congressional map proposal, which can be seen in the next section of this testimony. As it currently stands, it does not split any towns in the entire state. This will inevitably change, both to account for adjusted population changes as a result of Connecticut's new prison gerrymandering law, and to minimize total population deviation changes. My aim with regard to population deviation was a population less than 1000 from the average per district, which means a target population of 721,189. The map also makes the districts more compact than the map used during the preceding decade. For example, the way that the 1st district was giving a "bear hug" to communities in the 5th district looked awkward; my proposal eliminates this awkward shape. For a community of interest example, as I am a resident of Ansonia, I feel the entirety of the lower Naugatuck Valley should be in a single district; as such, the 3rd district takes in Oxford and Shelton.

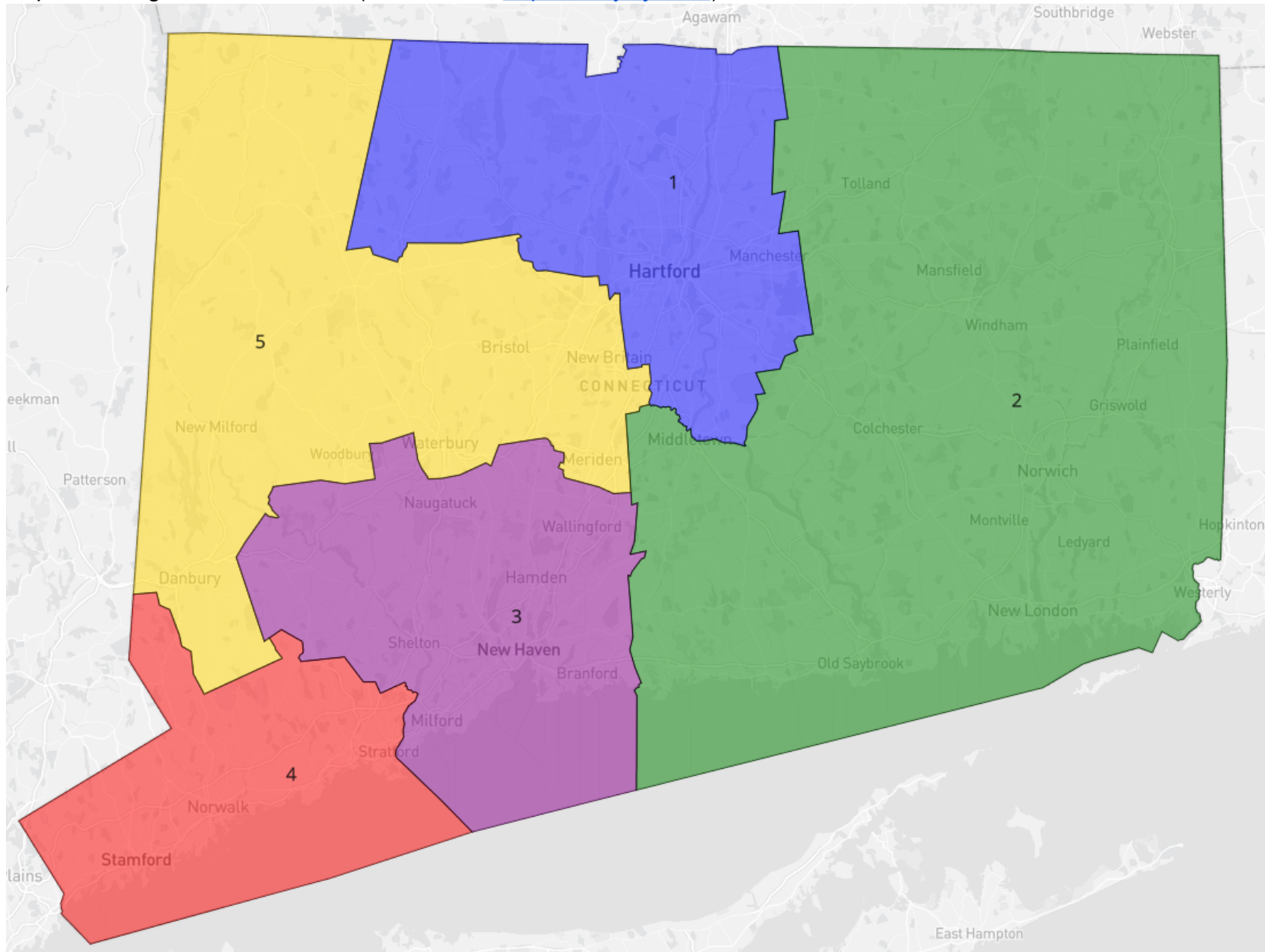
As far as my state senate and state house proposals go, beyond my normal standards of compactness and retaining communities of interest, I don't have much commentary, beyond something similar to my 3rd congressional district proposal: minimizing the splits in the lower Naugatuck Valley, where I reside. One specific comment which was publicized in the past year or so was that officials in the city of Derby do not wish to see their city split into 3 separate house districts, a concern which I echo. My state house map proposal keeps Derby whole, yet splits Ansonia into two districts. At the very least, no more than two districts should encompass these two towns - how they should be split is up for debate.

Thanks for listening.

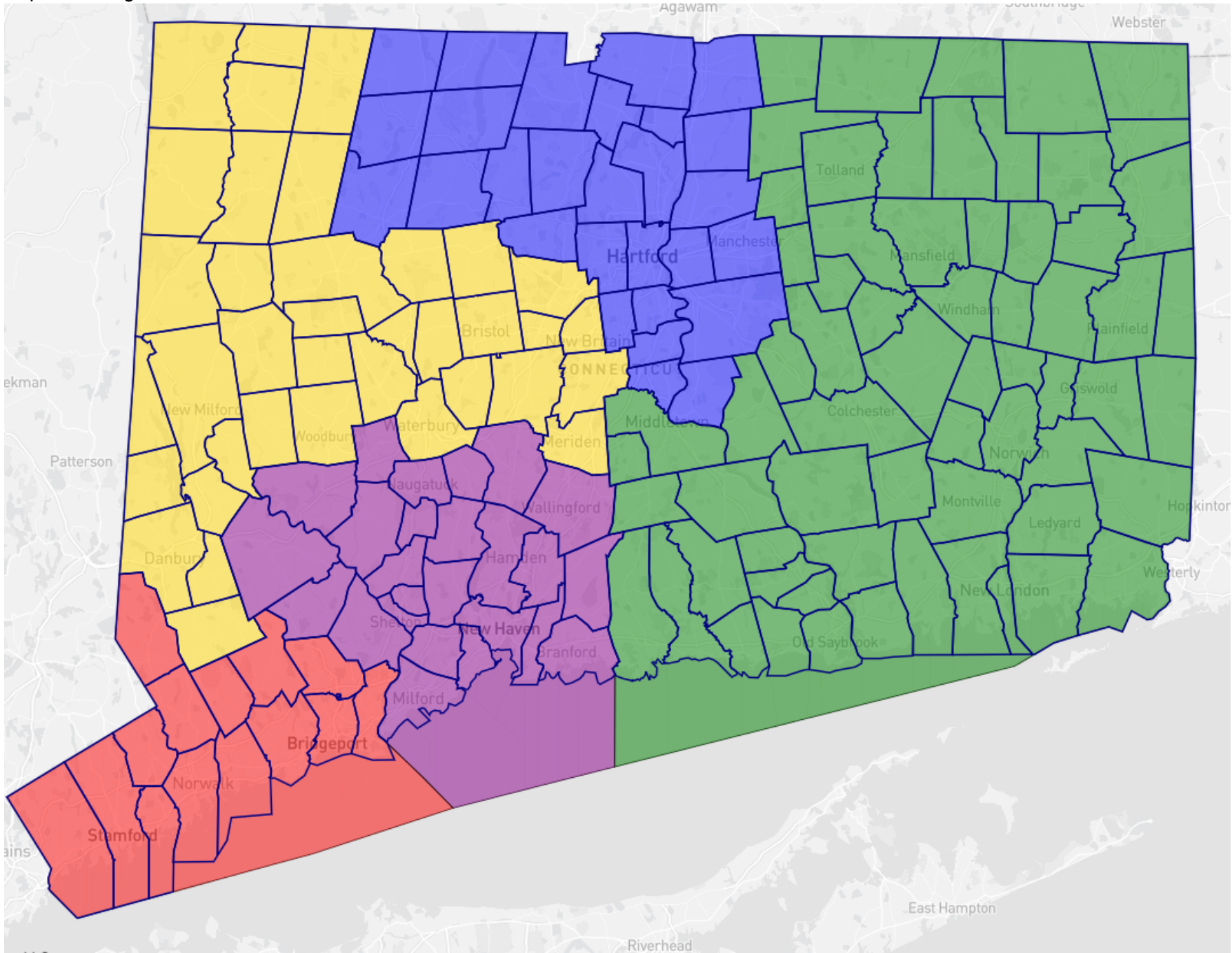
-Steven Erlingheuser

Section 2 - Maps:

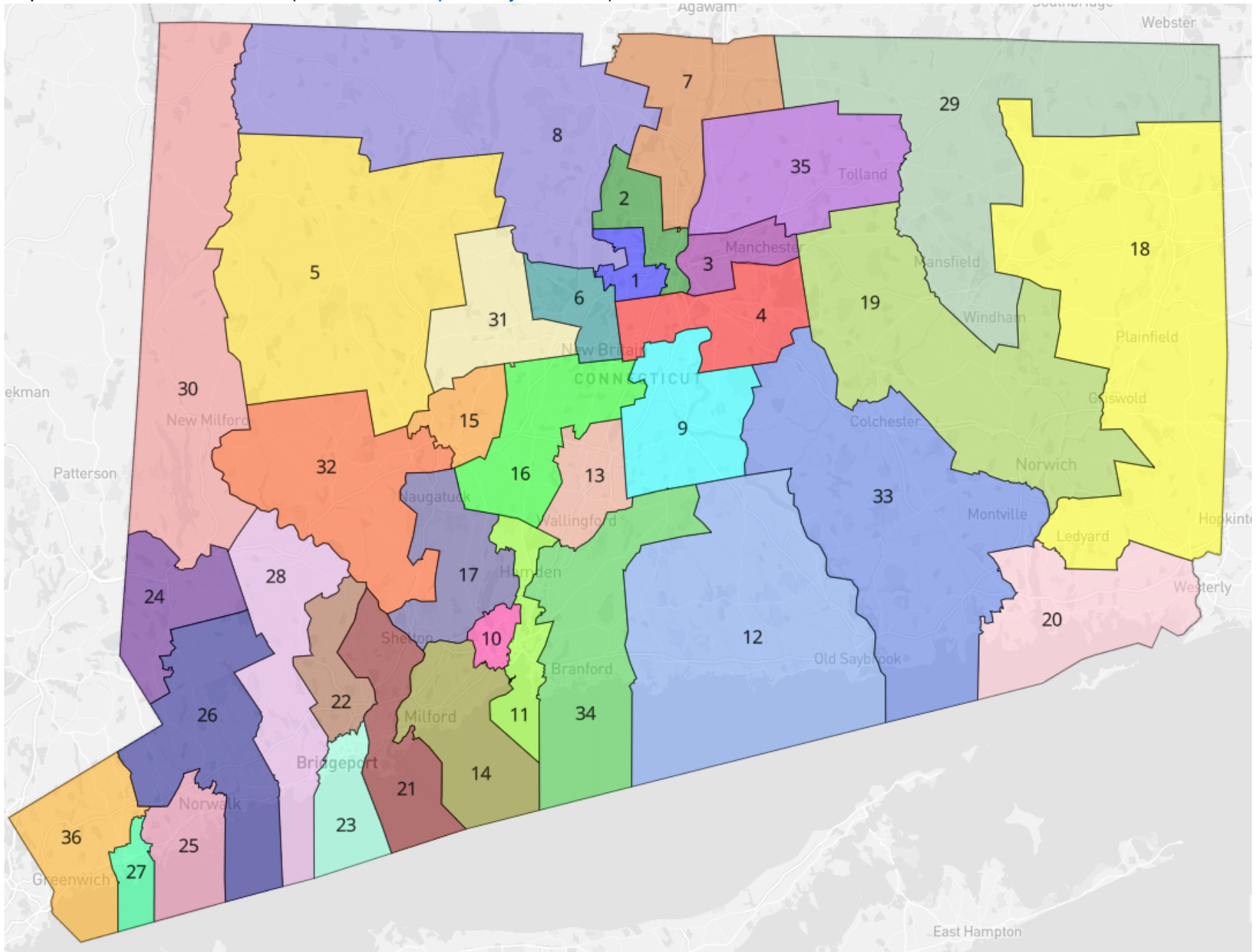
Map 1a - Congressional borders: (Link to view: <https://bit.ly/3jPTfks>)



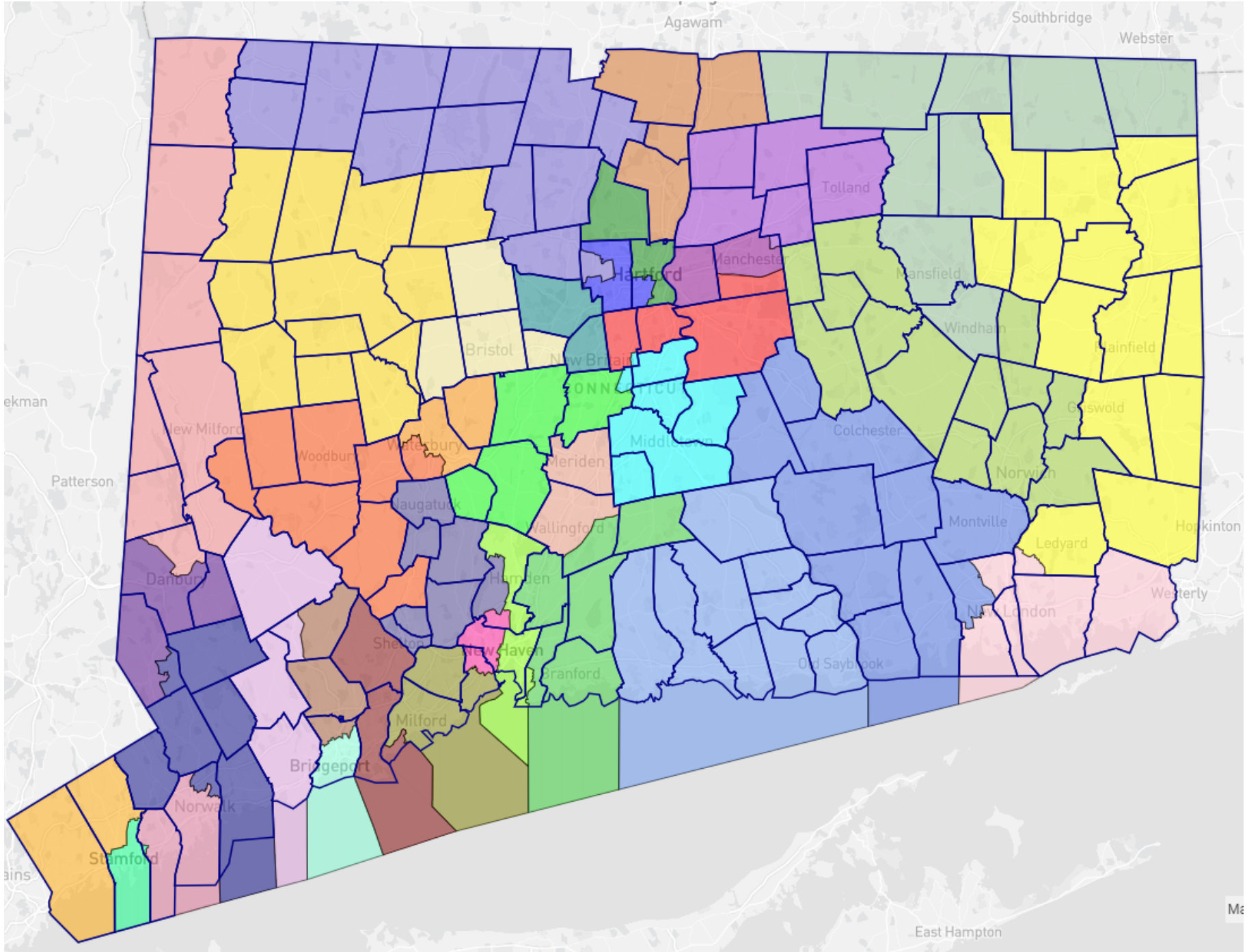
Map 1b - Congressional w/ town borders:



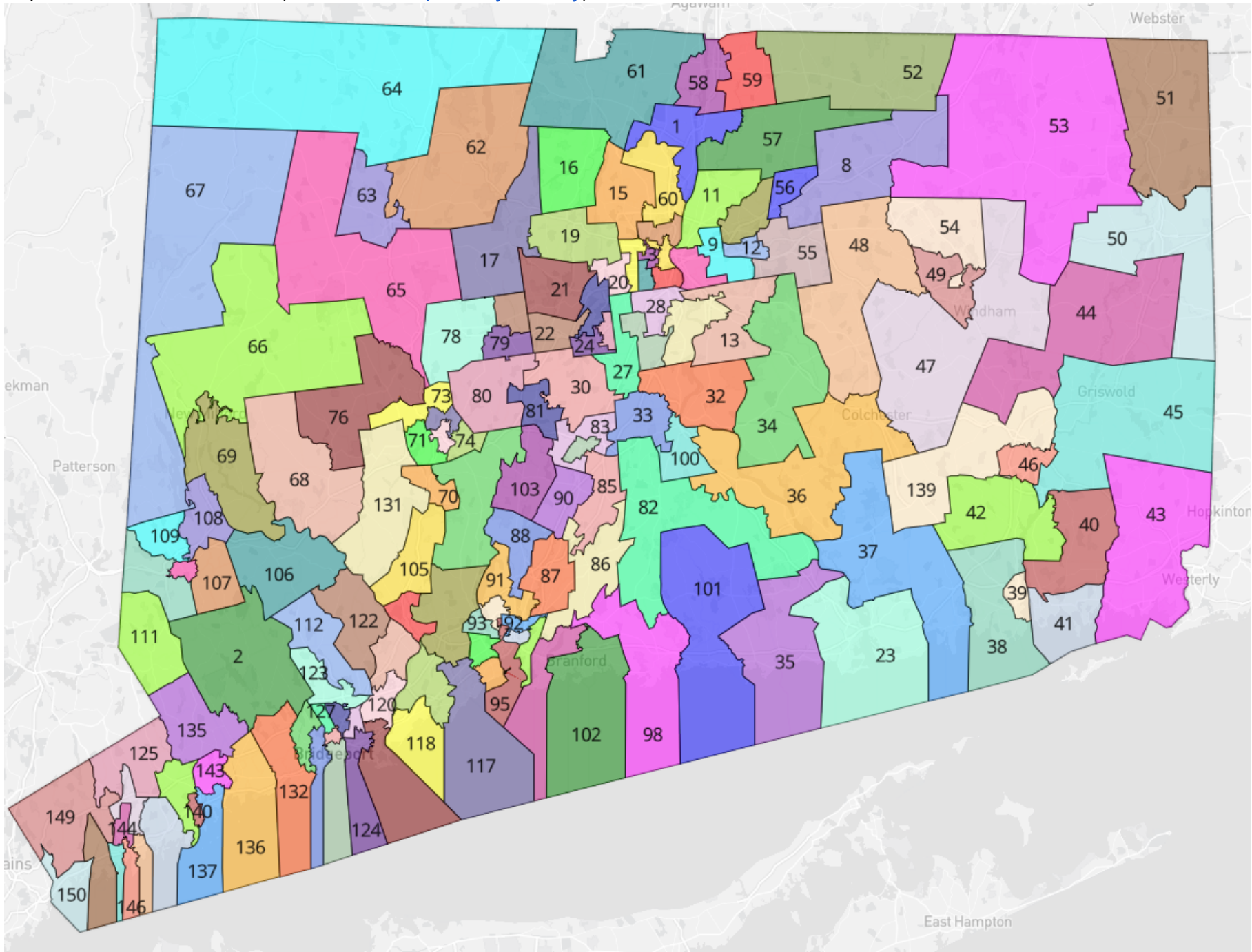
Map 2a - State senate borders: (Link to view: <https://bit.ly/3hc6WIS>)



Map 2b - State senate w/ town borders:



Map 3a - State house borders: (Link to view: <https://bit.ly/3h8tkTy>)



Map 3b - State house w/ town borders:

