

**Dear Editor,**

I am writing in support of Amy Morrin Bello for State Representative of the 28th District. I have had the pleasure of knowing Amy and the Bello family for nine years. When my family moved to Wethersfield, Amy was one of the first people I met when she invited us to her home for a neighborhood gathering. We knew almost nobody in town, but Amy's kind gesture, welcoming us to the community, established a relationship that I cherish. What I've come to learn in the subsequent years, though, is that Amy's invitation to me was emblematic of her nature and character; she is welcoming and inclusive, always ready to listen and help. I have watched her seamlessly carry those traits to her work in public service both as Wethersfield's Mayor and as a Town Councilor. In every situation, I have observed Amy's skill at finding ways to unite constituents and lead by example. Amy has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Wethersfield community. As a former small business owner, I am impressed that, during her time as Mayor of Wethersfield, the Town saw an increase of 21% in building permits and over 50 new businesses open. Amy listens to her constituents on issues that matter to them and actively works on their behalf. Her current work on the proposed town budget has put her leadership style on full display, collaborating with her colleagues and activating a grassroots response. Amy's decisions are grounded in knowledge and a keen understanding of how government works. There are no easy answers to the challenges CT residents will face in the coming months. Our region's recovery from the covid-19 crisis will require responsive, passionate leaders who can build and execute solutions for constituents beyond the way things have always been done. I know, without a shadow of a doubt, that Amy will take the same level of commitment and knowledge she has demonstrated in Wethersfield to the state Capitol.

Cindy Lesser