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## **Campaign Asks If St. Louis Area Really Needs 91 Local Governments.**

***Advocates see savings stemming from a merger of the city of St. Louis and St. Louis County; suburban leaders fear a loss of local controls***

The St. Louis region is losing population, its economy is sluggish and violent crime is on the rise.

A group of business leaders with bipartisan political backing see a common issue behind the problems—the region’s multitude of local governments.

They are pushing a plan to explore the reunification of the city and county to make the region of 1.3 million people more efficient and economically competitive.

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**The Walls Street Journal**

By Shayndi Raice

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