## AMERICA 250

Hon. Denise W. Merrill

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Maisa Tisdale Mary and Eliza Freeman Center for History and Community

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Amrys O. Williams, Ph.D. Connecticut League of Müseums

\* designee

September 3, 2024

Fred Allyn, III Mayor 741 Colonel Ledyard Highway Ledvard, CT 06339

Dear Mayor Allyn,

On July 4, 2026, the United States of America will mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence! In anticipation of this event, Governor Lamont established the America 250 | CT Commission, which has been charged to provide assistance to municipalities for the development of programs, projects, and activities pertaining to the American Revolution.

We are reaching out today with an update on how Ledyard may participate. Many cities and towns have created local committees to begin the work of planning commemorative activities. We encourage Ledyard to consider doing so as well! The most comprehensive committees will bring together various perspectives-librarians, historians, economic development leaders, business owners, town clerks, representatives of social justice, environmental, and/or DEI groups, etc. Once completed, please let us know who the best point of contact is - we will continue to share information about programs, funding opportunities, and promotional quidelines as we move forward.

In addition to any independent work your local committee may do, we invite you to participate in two state-wide activities over the next two years. First, the Commission will develop a resolution recommitting to the ideals of the Declaration of Independence, which we hope all of Connecticut's municipalities will adopt on or around July 4, 2025. Then, on July 4, 2026, we will host a recommitment ceremony at Connecticut's Old State House in Hartford, where representatives from all 169 municipalities will be invited to come together, like the nation did 250 years ago, and sign a copy of this resolution. Further information will be shared about these activities in the coming months.

You can learn more at our website: www.ct250.org/local. If you have further questions, please contact us at info@ct250.org

Sincerely,

Hon, Denise Merrill

Chair, America 250 | CT Commission

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Former Secretary of the State

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