



TOWN OF LEDYARD CONNECTICUT

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February 12, 2025

Senator Martin Looney, President of the Senate
Legislative Office Building
Room 330
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Senator Cathy Osten
Legislative Office Building
Room 2700
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

Dear Senator Looney and Senator Osten:

As Connecticut municipalities implement Public Act 24-46 "*An Act Establishing a Property Tax Exemption for Veterans Who Have a Service-Connected Permanent and Total Disability Rating*" on October 1, 2024, we ask that Legislators be mindful of the financial impact the program will have on neighboring bedroom communities such as Ledyard.

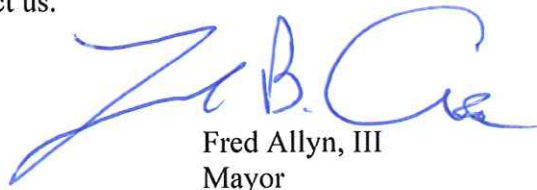
The New London-Groton Subbase which occupies approximately 687 acres along the Thames River, and has an active-duty population of about 7,500 personnel accompanied by 12,000 family members; and the Coast Guard which occupies approximately 103 acres, located across the Thames River on the west bank, in New London are integral part of the fabric of our Southeastern communities.

Ledyard is proud that both active duty and retired military members have chosen Ledyard to live, raise their families, and to call their home as we welcome our new friends and neighbors. Our community appreciates and values the men and women who put their lives on the line to protect our nation every day; along with the sacrifices their families make.

The original number of 100% Permanently and Totally Disabled Veterans that was conveyed to us was 1,209 for the whole State of Connecticut. However, Ledyard currently has 92 Veterans that qualify under Public Act 24-26 as it is currently written.

As a neighboring community to these important military installations, it is projected that Ledyard will see a loss of tax revenue in the amount of \$430,000 based on the known eligible accounts, placing a larger burden on our taxpayers to make up the difference. This combined with the current \$50,000 loss from current veterans' tax relief programs and the loss of tax revenue Ledyard has historically experienced as a host community to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, we appeal to our State Delegation to introduce in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Legislative Session a Grant Program to reimburse municipalities for the loss of revenue attributed to Public Act 24-46; or postpone the enactment of the law for one year until the wording is corrected on the Public Act to include 100% Permanently and Totally Disabled.

Should you have any questions or would like to discuss our request further, please do not hesitate to contact us.


Fred Allyn, III
Mayor

Sincerely,


S. Naomi Rodriguez
Town Council Chairman

cc:

Senator Anthony Nolan

Senator Martha Marx

Representative Brian Lanoue

Representative Greg Howard

Representative Kevin Ryan

Courtney Cullinan, Chief of Staff

Tax Assessor Adrianna Hedwall