



**TOWN OF LEDYARD
PROCLAMATION
RECOGNIZING THE MILITARY CHILD**

WHEREAS: New London was designated as the First United States Submarine Base, and in 1916 was named the "*Home of the Submarine Force*";

WHEREAS: On July 1, 1973 the all-volunteer Military Force was established returning to the tradition of voluntary service in the military. Every Soldier, Marine, Sailor, Airman and Guardian in the military today is a volunteer, and that effort has produced the finest fighting force.

WHEREAS: Former Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger designated April as the *Month of the Military Child* in 1986. As a symbol of our support and gratitude to our military children, the Department of Defense chose the color purple, representing all services in the military community.

WHEREAS: Today, the New London-Groton Subbase occupies approximately 687 acres along the Thames River serving an active-duty population of about 7,500 personnel accompanied by 12,000 family members. The Subbase is also the host to Naval Reserve Units, an Army Detachment Unit and a host for the Department of Defense. In addition, the United States Coast Guard Academy is located across the Thames River on the west bank, in New London;

WHEREAS: Ledyard and its surrounding communities have played a key role in welcoming the children of military families in providing support to see that these children grow and thrive as they work to navigate the uncertainties of a change in a station, a new neighborhood, the deployment of military parent, and call our community their Home;

WHEREAS: our Military families are an integral part of our community, with military children attending local schools, while their parents serve our nation. On average military children attend six to nine different school systems from kindergarten to grade 12 and face the challenges of transiting more than twice during their high school years, leaving friends and communities behind, all while continuously adjusting to the disruption of a parent leaving the family for extended periods of time, often missing milestone educational events, an exciting homerun hit, a masterful recital, birthdays and holidays;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Ledyard Town Council recognizes, honors and salutes the brave, resilient, and fearless *Military Child* who rises to the occasion, just as their military parents do;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED :as Military Families are part of the fabric of our local culture, the Town of Ledyard continues our principals of inclusion and our longstanding traditions to welcome and support our military families and their dependents. The people of our community value their sacrifices and dedication to our nation and will forever remain grateful for their service to our country.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: Given the significant role that the New London-Groton Subbase has held in history, the Town of Ledyard Hereby Congratulates the *United States Navy* as they Celebrates its 250th Birthday!

Presented to the Commander of the New London-Groton Subbase Captain Kenneth M. Curtin, on this Twenty-third day of April 2025 at Ledyard, Connecticut.

S. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairman
Ledyard Town Council