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March 20, 2015

Governor Dannel P. Malloy State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Dear Governor Malloy,

It is my understanding that you have removed the funding in your proposed state budget for Honor Guard details at the funerals of military veterans here in Connecticut.

The more than 26,000 members of the Department of Connecticut Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and our Auxiliaries expect you and the members of the Connecticut General Assembly to live up to the full letter and intent of State Statute 27-76, which requires funding for an Honor Guard detail at the funeral of veterans of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard, when requested by the commander of any accredited veteran organization or by friends or relatives of the deceased veteran.

The members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of The United States and its Auxiliaries urge you to reconsider your unwise decision, and replace the funding for Honor Guard details at Veterans funerals into your proposed budget. Our Veterans deserve no less than a complete detail rendering the final tribute, given to them by the grateful citizens of our Constitution State.

Respectfully,

Gregory Smith, State Commander

Department of Connecticut

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Cc: State Senator Flexor

State Representative Hennessey