

March 1, 2010

Honorable Representatives and Senators,

You have before you **HB 5151**, a Bill addressing Pilot Funds for relief to communities impacted by Land taken into Trust for Indian Tribes. Although it would appear that the Bill affects only those Towns in the proximity of the Mohegan Casino and Foxwoods Casino, in reality it could affect many more Municipalities.

Speaking only in regard to the Town of Ledyard, the Appraised Value of the land (1662.21 acres) in Trust is \$131,490,100. That value represents 11.2% of the Town's Total Grand List! The Town of Ledyard currently receives \$97,967.87 in PILOT Funds. The current Tax Loss to the Town of Ledyard is \$2,262,936.88 That Loss equates to 13.33% of our potential Tax revenue.

The tax burden on our residents is significant. Passage of this Bill **HB 5151** will not address other inequities such as the net cost to our Town of Ledyard for cost of educating Tribal children residing on the Reservation.

Federal and State Governments have also created a situation wherein Personal Business Property not owned by the MPTN, and the taxation when located on Trust land has become a legal issue. The cost of litigating that matter involves hundreds of thousands of our Residents tax dollars.

Passage of **HB 5151** and relief it could provide is both fair and of critical importance to the Municipalities. I urge your support for **HB 5151**.

Respectfully,

Fred Allyn, Jr.  
Town of Ledyard  
Office of Mayor