MARRIOTT
MYSTIC

February 16, 2017

Testimony of Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa
in support of Statewide Marketing Funding, as presented in Governor Malloy's 2018/2019 budget proposal, to the Appropriations Committee - February 17, 2017

Dear Senator Osten, Senator Formica, Representative Walker, and members of the Appropriations Committee,

The Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa strongly supports the funding of Statewide Marketing at $8.3 million as presented in Governor Malloy's 2018/2019 budget proposal.

This funding is essential to spur job growth in the hospitality sector, to leverage the success of the State Office of Tourism's new website, and to compete with surrounding states for visitor spending. The tourism industry is a critical component in the state's economic recovery. With appropriate funding, we can continue to attract visitors to Connecticut, increase overnight stays, and grow total visitor spending in the state.

We urge you to maintain the Governor's proposed $8.3 million for Statewide Marketing so we can maximize the economic impact of travel and tourism in Connecticut.

Judy Mackey, Senior Sales Manager
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