



State of Connecticut
CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

Governor Dannel P. Malloy
Office of the Governor
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Congressman Jim Himes
1227 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Richard Blumenthal
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Congressman John Larson
1501 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Senator Chris Murphy
136 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Congresswoman Elizabeth Etsy
405 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Congressman Joe Courtney
2348 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

November 17, 2015

Dear Governor Malloy and the Connecticut Federal Delegation:

We believe in and fully support our nation's long tradition of humanitarian aid and welcoming refugees from around the world in search of a better life in the United States. The recent decision to allow refugees from Syria into Connecticut, while well intentioned, could potentially threaten the security of our residents.

Ensuring the safety of our citizens is a fundamental responsibility of our state and federal government. Given the recent terrorist attacks in Paris, we must be on heightened alert and give extra scrutiny to refugees coming into the United States. Until we have more answers, we must proceed with extreme caution. We have already received countless phone calls and emails from residents asking us to investigate further before hasty decisions are made.


Do we have assurances that extensive background checks will be conducted? Who will be responsible for paying for the related costs? If the state is responsible, how will the state pay for the refugees to live here given our budget deficits? Will this be a permanent cost to the state? Where will they live?

Until we can confirm the security and vetting process for refugees and guarantee that the people coming to Connecticut do not wish to cause harm to our residents, we should not grant entry.

We look forward to hearing answers from all of you with regard to the process and security concerning the refugees.

Sincerely,


Themis Klarides
House Republican Leader


Len Fasano
Senate Republican Leader