

SENATOR MARTIN M. LOONEY
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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SENATE

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January 11, 2018

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy
Governor
State of Connecticut
State Capitol, Room 202
Hartford, CT 06106

Secretary Ben Barnes
Office of Policy and Management
450 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Governor Malloy and Secretary Barnes,

I am writing to urge you to release the car tax money that the General Assembly intended to be distributed to towns. As you are aware, there are three municipalities, Bridgeport, Hamden and Torrington that are facing an enormous hardship.

In the FY17 budget the General Assembly accommodated the completion of revaluations in these three localities when determining the formula for car tax grant distribution. It was assumed that this accommodation would still be there in the FY18 budget given our strong efforts to keep Alliance Districts (which all three of these towns are) to be kept whole as much as possible in terms of state aid.

As it stands now, Bridgeport is facing close to a \$5 million loss of revenue, Hamden almost \$1.9 million and Torrington over \$1.1 million. This is not something that the General Assembly, or I believe you, would have ever intended.

In order to address this unintended situation, the legislature in PA 17-4 of the June Special Session authorized you to issue supplemental motor vehicle property tax grants to municipalities that conducted recent revaluations. Since it appears that \$5 million is available to you I ask that you go ahead and issue these supplemental grants in the manner that the three municipalities have agreed to and have requested in the joint letter sent to you by the Mayors of those municipalities.

I look forward to hearing from you on this issue that is critical to the taxpayers of these three municipalities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marty".
Martin M. Looney