

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 7, 2014

Admiral Robert J. Papp, Jr.
Commandant
United States Coast Guard
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE
Washington D.C. 20593

Dear Admiral Papp:

We are proud of the strong and enduring ties between our state and the United States Coast Guard. From the establishment of the Coast Guard Academy in New London over 100 years ago to the planned development of the new National Coast Guard Museum, the connection between Connecticut and our nation's Coast Guard is indelible. And, there is no better tangible symbol of that connection than the presence of the EAGLE on Connecticut's shore.

For more than 60 years, New London has been the homeport of the EAGLE, the iconic training ship for our Coast Guard cadets. When in port, the ship is a draw for tourists and a source of pride for the region. When embarked on her important training mission, the ship and her crew serve not only as representatives of the Coast Guard in their ports of call around the country and the world, but also as ambassadors for our state.

We recognize the need for EAGLE to embark on a temporary homeport shift to the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore to receive the repairs and upgrades needed to keep her in service for decades to come. We support this effort, and look forward to EAGLE's return to New London as often as possible over the next four years, as well as her continued and enduring service long into the future. However, as you can appreciate as a fellow "Nutmegger," we also look forward to EAGLE's return to her permanent homeport of New London when repairs are completed in 2018.

Thank you, as always, for your leadership and support for the men and women of the United States Coast Guard.

Sincerely,


RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senator


CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
United States Senator


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress