## SUPPORT MYSTIC AQUARIUM'S CONSERVATION, EDUCATION & RESEARCH EFFORTS

## STAND WITH MYSTIC AQUARIUM IN HARTFORD-SAY NO TO THE PROPOSED WHALE BAN

I am writing to ask for your help and support of Mystic Aquarium to ensure the sustainability of our conservation-focused research and educational efforts.

On Thursday, the Joint Legislative Committee on the Environment in the State of Connecticut raised a bill entitled, "An Act Prohibiting the Sale and Breeding of Certain Cetaceans." The raising of the Bill allows it to move towards a public hearing. The hearing has been scheduled for next Friday, March 6th in the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.

Please join us in opposing this bill. First and foremost, it is inconsistent with federal laws which are among the most stringent in the world in protecting marine mammals, assuring their right to breed, and the movement of animals under human care for their care and well-being. Equally as important, if enacted, this bill would limit Mystic Aquarium's work to help preserve endangered cetaceans like populations of beluga whales, right whales, vaquita and many more.

## Here's how you can help:

1. Attend a public hearing on March 6, 2020 at 11am in Hartford. Join us in standing against this proposed ban on whales.

Legislative Office Building State Capital Government Office Complex 300 Capitol Ave #5100 Hartford, CT 06106

2.Write a letter of support and/or submit written testimony electronically to Whales@MysticAquarium.org by Thursday, March 5 at noon.

We need to be heard! Please consider joining us in Hartford on Friday. Bus transportation will be provided for those interested. Please RSVP to the President's Office at Whales@MysticAquarium.org.

Visit MysticAquarium.org/NoWhaleBan for more information.

Mystic Aquarium stands by the efforts of our staff and scientists, who work for the betterment and sustainability of the oceans, its animals and ecosystems.

Thank you in advance for your support – I hope to see you in Hartford on Friday.

Sincerely,

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Dr. Stephen M. Coan President & CEO Mystic Aquarium

