

**HOME RULE MESSAGE REQUESTING THE NEW YORK
STATE LEGISLATURE TO AMEND THE SUFFOLK COUNTY
HOTEL AND MOTEL TAX (SENATE BILL S9318 AND
ASSEMBLY BILL A10330)**

WHEREAS, Section 1202-o of the New York State Tax Law authorizes Suffolk County to adopt and amend local laws imposing a tax upon persons occupying hotel or motel rooms in Suffolk County at a rate of up to three percent (3%) of the per diem rental rate for each room; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from the hotel and motel tax have been used to promote tourism in Suffolk County and fund many of the County's historic sites, museums, parks, and cultural programming; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature imposed the hotel and motel tax by adopting Local Law No. 14-1992, Local Law No. 28-2000, Local Law No. 34-2009, Local Law No. 39-2015, Local Law No. 25-2017, and Local Law No. 51-2020; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S.9318 and Assembly Bill A.10330 authorize the County to raise the hotel and motel tax rate to five and half percent (5.5%) of the per-diem rental rate for each room, expand the permissible uses of the revenues generated by the hotel and motel tax including but not limited to funds for a new Suffolk County Infrastructure Fund, and remove the expiration date for the imposition of a hotel and motel tax; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that an increase in hotel and motel tax rate would benefit the County by providing additional revenues for the promotion of tourism, tradeshow, cultural programs and institutions; the maintenance of museums, historical structures, and parks in the County; and the development of the County's first, much needed convention center, which would create thousands of jobs and ultimately draw additional tourism business to the Long Island Region; now, therefore be it

1st **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature hereby requests that the New York State Legislature enact Senate Bill S9318 and Assembly Bill A10330, which authorize the County of Suffolk to increase the hotel and motel tax rate to five and half percent (5.5%) of the per-diem rental rate for each room, expand the permissible uses of the revenues generated by the hotel and motel tax, and remove the expiration date for the imposition of a hotel and motel tax; and be it further

2nd **RESOLVED**, that the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Kathy Hochul; to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Andrea Stewart-Cousins; to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly Carl E. Heastie; to the Minority Leaders of the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly; and to each member of the Long Island delegation to the New York State Legislature.

DATED: May 17, 2022