

Home Rule Message No. 19-2009

Laid on Table 8/4/2009

Introduced by Presiding Officer, on request of the County Executive

**HOME RULE MESSAGE REQUESTING THE STATE OF
NEW YORK TO AMEND CHAPTER 311 OF THE LAWS OF
1920, CONSTITUTING THE SUFFOLK COUNTY TAX ACT,
IN RELATION TO THE SALE OF DELINQUENT TAX LIENS
ON BROWNFIELDS PROPERTY (SENATE
BILLS.5995/ASSEMBLY BILL A.8772)**

WHEREAS, there are currently seventy-six parcels in Suffolk County with tax liens that are eligible for sale or disposal but for which the County has been reluctant to take tax deeds due to the contamination and/or the past use the parcels; and

WHEREAS, these parcels, identified as Brownfield sites, include approximately 215 acres that could be remediated and restored to the tax rolls if the tax lien could be sold or transferred to a private developer; and

WHEREAS, in many instances, the tax liens held by the County on Brownfields and the cost to remediate the property are in excess of the appraised value of the property; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly to amend the Suffolk County Tax Act to authorize Suffolk County to sell or dispose of tax liens for less than the outstanding tax due on liens on parcels identified as Brownfields, except Superfund sites, and to require remediation by purchasers; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby requests the State of New York to enact Assembly Bill A.8772 and Senate Bill S.5995 for the purpose of amending Chapter 311 of the Laws of 1920, constituting the Suffolk County Tax Act, in relation to the sale of delinquent tax liens on Brownfields Property; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor David. A. Paterson; to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Pedro Espada, Jr.; to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly Sheldon Silver; 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: August 18, 2009