

HOME RULE MESSAGE REQUESTING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO AMEND THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW TO PERMIT THE TRANSFER OF THE POSITIONS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY PARKS POLICE OFFICERS TO THE POSITIONS OF SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE OFFICERS

WHEREAS, fiscal constraints continue to burden Suffolk County and its taxpayers following the recession and contraction of the national economy in 2008 and beyond; and

WHEREAS, in order address these issues, the consolidation of certain Suffolk County police positions is a prudent and cost effective manner in which to continue to provide essential services to Suffolk County residents while decreasing the fiscal impact of such services; and

WHEREAS, under existing State law, no employee may be transferred to a position for which there is required an examination involving essential tests or qualifications different from or higher than those required for the position held by such employee; and

WHEREAS, the qualifications for service as a Suffolk County Parks Police Officers and the qualifications for service as Suffolk County Police Officer, while not the same, are substantially similar; and

WHEREAS, Suffolk County Parks Police are trained in the same manner as Suffolk County Police to protect the public through, among other things, execution of arrest warrants, conduct of warrantless searches for weapons and narcotics, the confiscation of contraband, and the proper manner in which to make arrests; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in the New York State Legislature that would permit the transfer of the positions of Suffolk County Parks Police Officers to the position of Suffolk County Police Officer solely by agreement with the collective bargaining representative of Parks Police Officers and regardless of any Civil Service eligibility lists or preferred lists; and

WHEREAS, this Legislature believes that permitting such transfer pursuant to agreement is a common sense fiscal measure that would streamline government while ensuring that qualified individuals are providing police protection to the citizens of Suffolk County; now, therefore, be it

1st RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby requests the State of New York to enact Senate Bill No. S.6701 and Assembly Bill No. A.8889 to amend the Civil Service law to permit the transfer of positions of the Suffolk County Parks Police to the Suffolk County Police solely through an agreement with the collective bargaining representative of Parks Police Officers and regardless of any Civil Service eligibility lists or preferred lists, and be it further.

2nd RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo; to the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate Hon. Dean Skelos; to the Speaker of the New York State Assembly Hon.

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; and be it further

3rd **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), and/or (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection. The Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this law.

DATED: March 18, 2014