



February 8, 2021

Hon. James Gaughran, Chairman
NYS Senate Local Government Committee
LOB Room 848
Albany, NY 12247

Re: NYS S1003 & S1004 - Self Certification

Dear Chairman Gaughran:

On behalf of the Association for a Better Long Island, Long Island Association and Long Island Builders Institute, the leading advocates of the region's economic development community, we write in support of NYS S1003 & S1004 bills, that would establish a self-certification program for building permit applications and construction documents filed with local governments.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on our region's economy, affecting small to large businesses, and has posed a threat to the safety and public health on Long Island. The economic impact of COVID19 is yet to be fully known. Taking the necessary steps to facilitate a speedy post pandemic recovery will be vital to our region's economic viability.

Self-certification programs will be instrumental in our economic recovery. In existence in New York City (since 1995), self-certification programs are used to make the permitting process more efficient for projects, save municipal resources and applicant time, as well as generate increased municipal revenue. As a result, the program spurs economic development by increasing investment in the municipality, creating jobs and economic activity. Several Long Island municipalities strongly support the establishment of self-certification programs. In fact, the Town of Huntington recently passed Resolution 2020-609 that urges the NYS legislature and Governor to enact such legislation.

In these unprecedented times where revenue shortfalls are widespread and employment remains at seven percent, a self-certification program could be critical in the region's post pandemic economic recovery. Therefore, the **Association for a Better Long Island, Long Island Association and Long Island Builders Institute** fully support NYS S1003 & NYS S1004.

Sincerely,

Kyle Strober, Executive Director
Association for a Better Long Island

Kevin Law, President & CEO
Long Island Association

Mitch Pally, CEO
Long Island Builders Institute

cc: Hon. Andrew Cuomo, Governor
Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Majority Leader, NYS Senate
Hon. Carl Heastie, Speaker, NYS Assembly
NYS Senate LI Delegation