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From

**Legislator Tom Cilmi**

**FOR RELEASE: March 22, 2012**

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## **CILMI LEADS AGAIN**

Today at a meeting of the Suffolk County Legislature's Government Operations Committee, Suffolk's new Deputy County Executive for Performance Management, Tom Melito, told the Committee he thought using "LEAN Government" principles in Suffolk County was a good idea and something he would pursue. The statement prompted Committee member, Legislator Tom Cilmi, to table a bill he sponsored directing the Planning Department to explore the use of LEAN in Suffolk.

Contrary to the literal definition of "lean," the term does not refer to the size of government, but rather is a scientific system for breaking down process systems and eliminating all the wasteful steps. Cilmi says the management tool, developed in the private sector, is also being used effectively in the public sector in places like Iowa, Minnesota and Connecticut.

At the meeting, Cilmi also suggested books by Ken Miller, including "We Don't Make Widgets" and "Extreme Government Makeover" that focus on increasing government's capacity to get things done. In an email to the Committee after the meeting, Mr. Melito said he returned to his office to find a copy of "We Don't Make Widgets" on his desk and vowed to "make use of it." Cilmi said he had no idea how the book got there..

Legislator Cilmi said, "Passing laws is a means to an end. If we can achieve the ends without the law, it's all the more gratifying. Once again, I'm proud to have led the way in proposing big ideas that could lead to meaningful changes in the way we deliver services in Suffolk County. Following LEAN principles, we can not only accomplish more at less of a cost, but equally as important, we can improve service delivery which in turn can have a significant positive impact on economic development, jobs, public health and in so many other areas."

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