



**TOM CILMI**  
**Suffolk County Legislator**  
**10th District**

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: January 17, 2013**

**Contact: Maria Barbara**  
**(631) 854-0940 (office)**  
**(516) 457-2573 (cell)**  
[maria.barbara@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:maria.barbara@suffolkcountyny.gov)

**Empire Center Issues Report on Budgeting  
Calls for Long-Term Planning**

The Empire Center for New York State Policy issued a report today calling for local governments to “adopt long-term financial planning as a core element of their budget practices.” The report is available at [www.empirecenter.org](http://www.empirecenter.org).

The report, entitled “Taking a longer view of our local budgets”, comes on the heels of another report issued by NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli citing a variety of fiscal challenges facing local governments, not the least of which is a loss of federal and state aid.

Suffolk County Legislator Tom Cilmi has proposed Introductory Resolution 1947-2012, A Charter Law to Establish Multi-Year Budget Plan which would require the County Executive to submit a three year plan along with his operating budget proposal for the following year, along with revenue and expense projections. Cilmi says the time is right to adopt his bill.

“The New York State Comptroller and the Government Financial Officers Association and now The Empire Center have all recommended that local governments adopt long-term plans. Given the projected growth in expenses, it only makes sense that we plan ahead,” Cilmi said.

The Legislature’s Budget Review Office, in their Statement of Fiscal Impact, said, “There could be considerable benefit in terms of identifying how the County plans to more explicitly address its long-term fiscal problems.” The office has been critical of the use of one-shot revenue sources in the past several years which, they say, have created a structural imbalance in the County’s budget.

“Working with the County Executive, the Legislature has taken strides to reduce short-term fiscal difficulties, but we are far from out of the woods,” said Cilmi. “Long-term budgeting is essential to the long-term fiscal health of Suffolk County.”

###