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## NYS Joint Legislative Public Hearing on 2022 Executive Budget Proposal: Higher Education

Testimony submitted by:

Daniel C. Levler, President, Suffolk County Association of Municipal Employees

Within the Capital Projects and Aid to Localities portion of the FY2023 New York State Budget, we are encouraged to find continued funding for Suffolk County Community College and hope that any critical reappropriations be met during the upcoming fiscal year. With community college enrollment down across the state and nation, including at SCCC, funding to supplement this suffering revenue stream is especially important. (It is worth noting that Suffolk AME is currently working with SCCC representatives on ways in which we can increase local enrollment, so such supplemental funding does not need to continue indefinitely.)

The Suffolk County workforce represented by the Suffolk Association of Municipal Employees (Suffolk AME) includes civilian employees in blue and white collar positions as well as security working at the college. In order to maintain facilities and keep the college running, our members rely on state funding and the support of our elected representatives at the state level.

For the purpose of testimony for the joint public hearing on Higher Education, we would like to recognize the following items and reappropriations within the Capital and Aid to Localities budgets that will impact the Suffolk AME at Suffolk County Community College (SCCC).

- SCCC Campus Critical Maintenance Projects (28CC1908) (45931)
- SCCC Infrastructure Improvements Ph. II (28CC1808) (45931)
- SCCC Roof Upgrade (28CC1708) (45931)
- SCCC Infrastructure Improvements (28CC1608) (45931)
- SCCC STEM Building (28C11508) (45931)
- SCCC Kreiling Hall Renovation (28CC1408) (45912)
- SCCC Infrastructure Improvements and Parking Expansion (Ammerman Campus) (28CC1208) (45912)
- SCCC Security Notification (28CC1008) (45910)

Suffolk AME would like to thank Governor Hochul, Senate Leader Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie, and all members of the Joint Committee on Human Services for their work on the 2023 budget. The programs outlined within the budget will continue to provide extensive financial support to the County and the County's municipal workforce, which we are proud to represent.