



May 4, 2020

Honorable Andrew Cuomo
Governor of New York
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

RE: Changes to various statutes which affect construction

Dear Governor Cuomo:

On behalf of the Long Island Builders Institute, the region's largest trade association representing residential builders, we would like to bring to your attention the following issues which could affect the ability of our construction companies to put thousands of real estate construction workers back on the job on Long Island. We would respectfully request that you and the various state agencies review these issues and add them to future executive orders during these times:

1. In specific municipalities on Long Island, it is illegal to work with certain places unless one is a licensed professional with the local municipality. While this requirement may be beneficial during normal times, it is going to be imperative to allow all licensed plumbers and electricians to work in all municipalities when construction starts again for a limited period of time to enable projects to move forward. In Suffolk County this objective would be accomplished by allowing all electricians and plumbers licensed by the county to work in any municipality in the county during a temporary suspension of the local laws. In Nassau County this objective would be accomplished by allowing a plumber or electrician licensed in any municipality in the county to work in any municipality in the county. Since the work still must meet all state building codes, there are no concerns with non-compliance with code requirements.
2. At the present time, the new State Building and Energy Code is scheduled to go into effect on May 12. Since many of the training programs to be conducted by the Office of the Secretary of State have been postponed, we would urge you to delay the implementation of the new code until the appropriate training has been given to code officers throughout the state. As construction in our state starts up again, it is critical to remove any unnecessary barriers or delays to projects.

The Long Island Builders Institute urges you to make these changes to allow our companies and employees to get back to work as quickly as possible.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mitchell H. Pally
Chief Executive Officer