



MEMO OF SUPPORT

TED Part R – State Environmental Quality Review Act Reform

MACNY – The Manufacturers Association and The Manufacturers Alliance of New York support Governor Kathy Hochul’s launch of EXPRESS NY (Expediting Processes and Regulations to Enable Streamlined Services). This is a strong and timely step toward modernizing state government. By directing agencies to identify outdated and burdensome regulations — nearly 100 in the initial review — the Governor has made clear that New York can protect important standards while eliminating inefficiencies that slow progress. Removing obsolete rules, cutting unnecessary fees, digitizing paper-based systems, expediting occupational licensing renewals, and reducing duplicative reporting requirements will make government more responsive and cost-effective. EXPRESS NY reflects a practical belief that effective government should be measured by outcomes, not by the volume of red tape it produces.

A particularly important aspect of this effort is reform of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR). SEQR plays an essential role in safeguarding environmental quality, but its current process often results in lengthy delays, overlapping reviews, and increased litigation risk that stall critical projects. Through the Governor’s “Let Them Build” agenda, commonsense SEQR reforms can maintain strong environmental protections while establishing clearer timelines, reducing duplicative analysis, and creating more predictable review pathways. Modernizing SEQR will help speed up affordable housing, transportation improvements, water infrastructure, childcare facilities, and other essential community investments. Reform is not about weakening standards; it is about ensuring that environmental review is thorough, transparent, and timely.

New York is at a pivotal moment, with major opportunities in housing, infrastructure, and advanced manufacturing. To seize these opportunities, the state needs a regulatory framework that preserves public protections, while enabling projects to move forward efficiently. EXPRESS NY and SEQR modernization demonstrate a commitment to smarter governance — one that cuts excessive red tape, clarifies expectations, and accelerates delivery of critical services. Supporting these reforms is not about deregulation for its own sake; it is about building a more agile, accountable government that can deliver results, strengthen communities, and position New York for long-term economic competitiveness.

ABOUT MACNY: [MACNY, The Manufacturers Association](#), is a 113-year-old non-profit organization representing manufacturers and other non-industrial service providers throughout Central New York. With a commitment to enhancing economic development and workforce

opportunities, MACNY serves as an advocate for manufacturers, offering a wide array of programs and services to help businesses grow and thrive in a competitive global market.

ABOUT THE MANUFACTURERS ALLIANCE OF NEW YORK: The Manufacturers Alliance of New York is a statewide organization comprised of nine manufacturing associations, united to advocate for the manufacturing community in Albany and Washington.