

RECEIVED
ERIE COUNTY
LEGISLATURE

COUNTY OF ERIE

LOCAL LAW NO. 5

APR 25 1 42 PM '79

LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 10 (Print # 1)

1979

A LOCAL LAW amending Local Law No. 1 - 1959, as amended, constituting the Erie County Charter, by adding thereto a new Article XI-E, and Local Law No. 1 - 1960, as amended, constituting the Erie County Administrative Code, by adding thereto a new Article 11-E, to provide for the establishment of a Department of Senior Services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Declaration of purpose. The County of Erie, recognizing the importance of providing vital services and assistance to its senior citizens, of continuing these efforts without interruption, and preserving a permanent status for such services in future, hereby establishes a Department of Senior Services. The County further realizes that its resources will best be employed when the use thereof is directed toward maximum provision of services rather than establishment and maintenance of a large management structure. It is the intent of this law, therefore to make provision for delivery of maximum services to senior citizens, but without undue expansion of the management structure involved.

Section 2. Local Law No. 1 - 1959, as amended, constituting the Erie County Charter, is hereby amended by adding thereto a new Article XI-E to read as follows:

Article XI-E

Department of Senior Services

Section 11-E-01. Department established; Commissioner

11-E-02. Powers and Duties

11-E-03. Advisory Board

Section 11-E-01. Department of Senior Services; Commissioner. There shall be a department of senior services, the head of which shall be the commissioner. The commissioner of said department shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the county executive. There shall be no deputy commissioner nor shall any position be created, by whatever title, providing for duties and emoluments which would be appurtenant in fact to the office of a deputy commissioner of the department.

Section 11-E-02. Powers and Duties. The commissioner of the department shall:

- a. act as the local administrative officer for planning and coordination of services for senior citizens in cooperation with the County Executive and the County Legislature;
- b. serve as an advocate in order to make existing service systems more effective and accessible to senior citizens;
- c. assess the future needs of senior citizens to insure the continuance of beneficial programs and to implement additional services according to need and demographics including handicapped and disabled senior citizens;
- d. apply for such federal and state funds and grants as may be beneficial to senior citizens' programs;

- e. function as a coordinator with the cities, towns and villages within the county for community-based systems for senior citizens;
- f. gather and disseminate information relating to the needs of the aging and inform the public through an awareness program of the services and facilities available to senior citizens;
- g. initiate and monitor programs to preserve the safety of senior citizens with respect to transportation services and crime prevention;
- h. perform such further duties as may be prescribed or directed by the County Executive or the County Legislature.

Section 11-E-03. Advisory Board. There shall be established an advisory board to the department of senior services.

Section 3. Local Law No. 1 - 1960, as amended, constituting the Erie County Administrative Code, is hereby amended by adding a new Article 11-E to read as follows;

Article 11-E

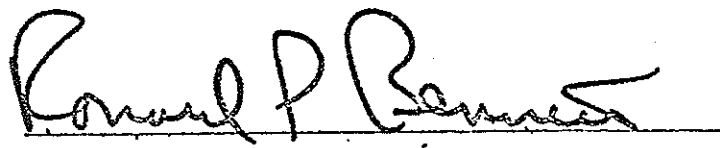
- Section 11-E-01. Department Established
- 11-E-02. Commissioner, Powers and Duties
- 11-E-03. Advisory Board

Section 11-E-01. Department Established. There shall be a department of senior services as established by the Erie County Charter.


Section 11-E-02. Commissioner, Powers and Duties. There shall be a commissioner of the department of senior services to be appointed with powers and duties pursuant to provisions of the Erie County Charter.

Section 11-E-03. Advisory Board. The County Executive shall appoint 19 persons to serve without compensation on an advisory board for the department of senior services to advise on matters relating to senior citizens in the county. The board shall include not less than 10 members who are Erie County residents, 62 years of age or older. Membership shall be proportionately representative of the geographical areas within Erie County. The term of office of members of the board shall be two years. Officers of the board shall be selected by the membership thereof. Members of the board shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the Council of Senior Citizens Clubs of Buffalo and Erie County, Inc., and of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.



RONALD P. BENNETT
18TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR



MICHAEL J. ALESSI
8TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR