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COUNTY OF ERIE
LOCAL LAW NO. 4
LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 1 (Print #4)

1983

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Article XI-F

Office for the Disabled

Section 11-F-01. Department established; Director.

11-F-02. Powers and Duties.

11-F-03. Advisory Board.

Section 11-F-01. Office for the Disabled; Director. There shall be an office for the disabled, the head of which shall be the director. The director of said office shall be appointed by and shall serve at the pleasure of the county executive.

Section 11-F-02. Powers and Duties. The director of the office shall:

- a) advocate the benefits and services which disabled persons are entitled to under the law and represent the disabled in various

areas of concern affecting their rights as citizens, including, but not limited to, transportation, education, recreation, economic security, architectural barriers and rehabilitation;

- b) identify and recommend to public and private agencies and organizations which serve the disabled, to the county legislature and to the county executive appropriate sources of State, Federal and private financial assistance for purposes of comprehensively expanding services and programs for the disabled;
- c) identify areas of unmet needs and gaps in services and programs for the disabled;
- d) act as the county administrative officer for planning and coordinating services for the disabled in cooperation with the county executive, county legislature, county departments and public and private agencies and organizations which serve the disabled;
- e) assist in the delivery of needed services to the disabled and encourage appropriate service providers, both public and private, to provide for an effective delivery of services to the disabled;
- f) establish and maintain coordination and communications with all public and private agencies and departments in the County which provide services and programs to the disabled;
- g) develop and provide an information and referral service for all services and programs for the disabled and their families;

- h) gather and disseminate information relating to the needs of the disabled and inform the public through an awareness program of the services and facilities available to disabled persons;
- i) issue such publications and reports which in the director's judgement will promote the interests of the disabled;
- j) meet regularly with and provide technical and staff assistance to the Erie County Council on the Disabled;
- k) perform such further duties as may be prescribed or directed by the county executive or the county legislature;

Section 11-F-03. Advisory Board. There shall be established an advisory board to the office for the disabled which shall be known as the Erie County Council on the Disabled.

Section 2. Local Law No. 1 - 1960, as amended constituting the Erie County Administrative Code, is hereby amended by adding a new Article 11-F to read as follows:

Article 11-F

Section 11-F-01. Office Established

11-F-02. Director, Powers and Duties

11-F-03. Advisory Board

Section 11-F-01. Office Established.

There shall be an office for the disabled as established by the Erie County Charter.

Section 11-F-02. Director, Power and Duties

There shall be a director of the office for the disabled to be appointed with powers and duties pursuant to provisions of the Erie County Charter.

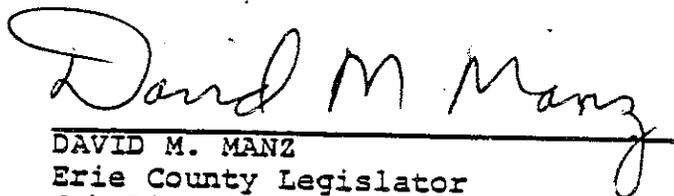
Section 11-F-03. Advisory Board.

The advisory board to the office for the disabled shall be known as the Erie County Council on the Disabled. Members of the Council shall be appointed by the county executive, subject to confirmation by the county legislature and shall serve without compensation. Such council shall consist of twelve (12) voting members: six (6) of whom shall be disabled individuals or the parent of a disabled child or children, with a maximum of three (3) of the preceding members being a non-disabled parent of a disabled child or children; and three (3) of whom shall be appointed from a list of nine (9) representatives nominated by public and private agencies and organizations serving disabled citizens of the County. In addition to the voting members, each public and private agency and organization providing service to the disabled shall be entitled to designate a non-voting member to the council. The term of office of voting members of the council shall be two years and the term of the members first appointed shall commence on the first day of the month following the enactment of this law. A vacancy shall be filled for an unexpired term of a voting member in the same manner as the original appointment. Officers of the council shall be selected by the voting membership thereof.

Meetings of the council shall be held upon the call of the chairman or as specified in a written declaration by a majority of the members of such council but in no event shall less than eight (8) meetings per year be held.

The council shall be charged with the responsibility of assisting the director in the implementation and performance of those functions and duties set forth in Section 11-F-02 of the Erie County Charter and to hold at least one (1) open meeting annually for purposes of soliciting the comments of the general public regarding the status of services and programs for the disabled in the County.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.



DAVID M. MANZ
Erie County Legislator
6th District