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ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
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County of Erie

DAVID J. SWARTS
COUNTY CLERK

December 15, 1998

Honorable Charles Swanick
Chairman
Erie County Legislature
25 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Chairman Swanick:

The Erie County Auto Bureau has made tremendous strides in the last few years in the areas of customer service and retention of fees for the County. This past year, for example, we were able to cut the County contribution for Motor Vehicle services by nearly \$200,000, while still completing a higher number of transactions.

We are providing more service hours in the four offices of the Erie County Auto Bureau than any other County Auto Bureau in New York State. Even though we have come a long way in our efforts to service motorists in Erie County, we **still lose revenue** because residents at the outer reaches of our County travel to neighboring counties to complete their motor vehicle business. As you know, the Auto Bureau's retention fees are based upon a percentage of the gross receipts. Therefore, to increase revenues and reduce the County's contribution, it is very important to increase the number of transactions.

My proposal to establish a Mobile Auto Bureau for Erie County, which would provide enhanced services to Grand Island, Springville, Clarence, East Aurora, the City of Tonawanda and many Erie County communities adjacent to these areas, makes a great deal of sense. It also gives us an opportunity to increase our revenues.

I was disappointed by the fact that the County Executive's tentative budget for 1999 did not include funding to establish a Mobile Auto Bureau. I was equally disappointed that attempts to have the County Legislature provide funds in the final budget were also unsuccessful.

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I thank you for keeping an open mind about the Mobile Auto Bureau and your expressed willingness to explore this plan further. I would, therefore, appreciate the opportunity to discuss this matter with the appropriate Legislative Committee. I still believe that the Mobile Auto Bureau has merit. Revenues will offset costs over a five-year period and **services would be enhanced.**

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future regarding this matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Swarts", written in a cursive style.

DAVID J. SWARTS

Erie County Clerk