

## SUSPENSION

### **ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**PATRICK B. BURKE**

*7th District Legislator*



□ 92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202  
**716/858-8878**  
**FAX: 716/858-8818**

The Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street  
4th Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202


May 25, 2017

My Fellow Legislators,

A family vacation that was scheduled months ago prevents me from attending session today. However, just as I did during the Health and Human Services Committee meeting last week, I urge you to approve the \$1 million funding for the opioid epidemic today.

On May 13th we lost another eight lives to this terrible epidemic, and each day that we delay more lives are lost. I am not opposed to the RFP process sometime in the future but we must act now; time is of the essence. As an expert who recently testified before the legislature commented, we have to throw everything we have at this problem.

The letter from the Department of Health outlining how these resources can and should be allocated gives us enough validation that the resources are needed immediately. Our constituents are searching for answers in the wake of unspeakable loss; we owe it to them to do everything in our power to help stop this epidemic in its tracks.

Sincerely,  
  
**PATRICK B. BURKE**  
7th District Legislator