

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR BASKIN**

Re: Calling on the County Clerk to Establish Evening or Weekend Hours at the Buffalo Auto Bureau

WHEREAS, the Erie County Clerk is responsible for providing auto bureau services for the public as an agent for the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Clerk administers six (6) physical auto bureau locations, as well as offers four weekly satellite locations in suburban/rural communities via his mobile unit; and

WHEREAS, only one of those ten (10) locations is in the City of Buffalo, where more than 25% of the County's residents reside; and

WHEREAS, the Cheektowaga and Tonawanda auto bureau locations offer weekend hours, operating from 7 am-1 pm on Saturdays; and

WHEREAS, when successfully advocating before this Honorable Body for new motor vehicle representative positions in early 2018 to provide Saturday hours at the Tonawanda auto bureau, the County Clerk stated that this would also offer Niagara County residents options to drive to Tonawanda to use auto bureau services and contribute revenue to Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the only auto bureau location located in the City of Buffalo is only open on weekdays between 8:30 am and 4:15 pm, and offers no nighttime or weekend hours for persons who work during the weekdays and cannot get to the auto bureau during working hours; and

WHEREAS, for those many Buffalo residents who rely on public transportation, but need to access auto bureau services, it is very difficult to travel to the Tonawanda and Cheektowaga auto bureau locations on Saturdays, due to the NFTA bus schedules with fewer buses available on Saturdays, and the need to utilize multiple buses with transfers and long delays in order to get to the suburban bureaus; and

WHEREAS, for many city residents, travel to suburban locations is challenging or difficult for myriad reasons, and in the interest of improving government accessibility to city residents, as well as equity, establishing a larger city auto bureau footprint would be positive for the consumers, as well as the County, through the promise of local revenue into the Clerk's Office; and

WHEREAS, consideration by the County Clerk is urged to offer equity and to accommodate city residents with offering them access to the Buffalo auto bureau after 4:15 pm on weekdays, or on Saturdays.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature urges County Clerk Michael Kearns to work with his CSEA-represented auto bureau employees and the County Department of Public Works to analyze the costs and implications, and to then develop a plan to offer weeknight or Saturday hours of operation at the Buffalo auto bureau; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the County Clerk, Commissioner of Public Works, Commissioner of Personnel, and County Executive.

Fiscal Implications: To be determined.