

JANUARY 15, 2009

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 1

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. CHAIR MARINELLI PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:
 - a. COMM. 6E-1 (2008)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Fact-Finding Report Between County of Erie and New York State Nurses Association
(6-0)
 - b. COMM. 11D-6 (2008)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: Letter Concerning Taxpayer Protection Law
(6-0)
 - c. INTRO 13-4 (2008)
REYNOLDS & KOZUB: Changing the Current EC Charter Sec. 202.2 by Increasing the Term of Office for Members of the County Legislature from Two to Four Years
(6-0)
 - d. COMM. 21M-9 (2008)
NYS NURSES ASSOCIATION: Letter Concerning Fact Finder's Report
(6-0)
 - e. COMM. 23E-2 (2008)
MILLER-WILLIAMS: Letter to Public Employment Relations Board Concerning AFSCME Local 1095
(6-0)
 - f. COMM. 23D-4 (2008)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County
(6-0)
 - g. COMM. 26M-11 (2008)
NYS PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS BOARD: Response to Letter from Government Affairs Committee Chair Barbara Miller-Williams
(6-0)
 - h. COMM. 28M-2 (2008)
LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.: 2007 Financial Statements, 2007 Annual Report and Annual Board of Directors' Minutes
(6-0)
 - i. COMM. 28M-5 (2008)
LEGAL AID BUREAU OF BUFFALO, INC.: Monthly Reports & Monthly Activity Reports for October & November, 2008
(6-0)
 - j. COMM. 28M-6 (2008)
NYS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES: Acknowledgement of Receipt of Certified Resolution
(6-0)
 - k. COMM. 1E-9 (2009)
COMPTROLLER: Memorandum Concerning NYS Comptroller - New Regulations on Time Reporting
(6-0)
 - k. COMM. 1D-2 (2009)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County
(6-0)
 - l. COMM. 1D-7 (2009)
COUNTY ATTORNEY: Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County
(6-0)
 - m. COMM. 1M-1 (2009)
NIAGARA ERIE REGIONAL COALITION: Agenda Items for Meeting Held 12/12/08
(6-0)
 - n. COMM. 1M-5 (2009)
MEALS ON WHEELS FOR WNY INC.: Legislature Budget Accountability Act - 2008 Close-Out Report
(6-0)
 - o. COMM. 1M-10 (2009)
ERIE COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT: Legislature Budget Accountability Act - 2008 Close-Out Report
(6-0)

- p. COMM. 1M-11 (2009)
KEN-TON MEALS ON WHEELS: Legislature Budget Accountability Act - 2008 Close-Out Report
(6-0)
- q. COMM. 1M-12 (2009)
OPERATION PETS: Legislature Budget Accountability Act - 2008 Close-Out Report
(6-0)
- r. COMM. 1M-17 (2009)
NIAGARA ERIE REGIONAL COALITION: Legislature Budget Accountability Act - 2008 Close-Out Report
(6-0)

2. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed and referred to the ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

- a. INTRO 11-9 (2008)
MARINELLI, WHYTE, REYNOLDS, LOUGHRAN, IANNELLO, GRANT & MAZUR:
The Erie Niagara Framework for Regional Growth and the Establishment of an Erie County Planning Board
(6-0)

3. INTRO 19-6 (2008)
MILLS & RATH
WHEREAS, the New York State Local Government Commission on Efficiency and Competitiveness has made certain recommendations to the Governor which affect the operation of local governments; and

WHEREAS, one of the recommendations of the Commission was to move all Registrar of Vital Statistics' duties to the County level under the direction of the New York State Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, New York State Department of Health has developed program bill S.8184/A.11560 that would allow the Commission to consolidate the function of the local registrars of vital statistics; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner could consolidate these services without county legislature approval; and

WHEREAS, local city, town and village Clerks have provided this service professionally and efficiently over the years; and

WHEREAS, losing this business would have a financial impact on the local governments; and

WHEREAS, many citizens are under financial stress due to high fuel cost; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie's geography would increase this burden since services would be located further from the residents; and

WHEREAS, the local Registrars presently charge \$10 per certified copy and the State proposes that the County will charge \$30 per certified copy; and

WHEREAS, the consolidation would negatively impact local governments and Erie County taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County of Erie, in the interest of good government, opposes the consolidation of the function of local registrars of vital statistics; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor David Paterson, Erie County Executive Chris Collins, Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Erie County Clerk Kathy Hochul, and members of the Western New York Delegation.
(6-0)

BARBARA MILLER-WILLIAMS
CHAIR