

Bill No. 2079-05

No. 31-05-RE

RESOLUTION

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, urging the General Assembly to consider and pass House Bill 1479 to establish an Office for People with Disabilities within the Office of the Governor to advise and assist the Governor and General Assembly in developing policies addressing the concerns of adults and children with disabilities and their families and guardians and to assure that those individuals have access to adequate and coordinated quality services and programs.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2004, Allegheny County Council unanimously passed Motion No. 1503-04 that supported the passage of House Bill 1859 (Session of 2003) and urged the General Assembly to move forward to create an office to enable access to services, establish coordinating of those services, and to improve and develop programs for adults and children with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2004, Allegheny County Council unanimously passed, and the Chief Executive signed, Resolution No. 22-04-RE that called on the Senate's State Government Committee to consider and report House Bill 1859 from committee; the legislation, however, died at the end of session; and

WHEREAS, the legislation has been reintroduced as House Bill 1479, proposing a state-level office that would ensure that persons with disabilities and their families have access to adequate and coordinated, quality, consumer-controlled disability services by utilizing interagency agreements and public-private partnerships and can identify gaps in disability services and funding shortages, advocate for changes to existing programs, plan for improvements in services, and coordinate such services and programs for greater efficiencies; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Coalition to Establish an Office for People with Disabilities are staunch advocates of the legislation and continue to educate agencies, organizations, boards, consumers, elected officials, and other interested parties about the importance of such an office in the Commonwealth because its creation would ensure that persons with disabilities and their families could more fully exercise their rights and responsibilities as citizens;

The Council of the County of Allegheny hereby resolves as follows:

SECTION 1.

The General Assembly is urged to consider and pass House Bill 1479 to establish an Office for People with Disabilities within the Office of the Governor to advise and assist the Governor and

General Assembly in developing policies addressing the concerns of adults and children with disabilities and their families and guardians and to assure that those individuals have access to adequate and coordinated quality services and programs.

SECTION 2.

Copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the Members of the General Assembly from Allegheny County, the Governor of the Commonwealth, and the Members of the House of Representative's Committee on Health & Human Services to evidence Allegheny County's support of House Bill 1479.

SECTION 3.

If any provision of this Resolution shall be determined to be unlawful, invalid, void or unenforceable, then that provision shall be considered severable from the remaining provisions of this Resolution which shall be in full force and effect.

SECTION 4.

Any Resolution or Ordinance or part thereof conflicting with the provisions of this Resolution is hereby repealed so far as the same affects this Resolution.

SPONSORED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS CLEARY, ROBINSON, KRESS, PRICE, MARTONI, REA & FRAZIER

Enacted in Council, this 12th day of July, 2005

Council Agenda No. 2079-05



Rich Fitzgerald
President of Council

Attest: John Mascio
John Mascio
Chief Clerk of Council

Chief Executive Office July 15, 2005

Approved: Dan Onorato
Dan Onorato
Chief Executive

Attest: Donna Beltz
Donna Beltz
Executive's Secretary

Mascio, John

From: Mascio, John

Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 11:57 AM

To: Governor Ed Rendell; Gerald J. Lavalle; J. Barry Stout; Jane Orié; Jay Costa; Jim Ferlo (jferlo@pasenate.com); John Perzel; John Pippy; Robert J. Mellow; Robert Jubelirer; Sean Logan; Wayne Fontana (wfontana@pasenate.com); Anthony DeLuca; Dan Frankel; David Levdansky; Don Walko; Frank Dermody; Frank Pistella; Harry Readshaw; Jake Wheatley; Jeffrey Habay; John Maher; Joseph F. Markosek; Joseph Preston, Jr.; Kenneth Ruffing; Marc Gergely; Mark Mustio; Michael Diven; Mike Turzai; Nick Kotik; Paul Costa; Sean M. Ramaley; Thomas C. Petrone; Tom Stevenson; Victor John Lescovitz

Subject: Allegheny County Council Resolution NO. 31-05-RE

At the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on July 12, 2005, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 31-05-RE (attached), entitled, "A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, urging the General Assembly to consider and pass House Bill 1479 to establish an Office for People with Disabilities within the Office of the Governor to advise and assist the Governor and General Assembly in developing policies addressing the concerns of adults and children with disabilities and their families and guardians and to assure that those individuals have access to adequate and coordinated quality services and programs."

The Resolution was approved and signed by the Chief Executive on July 15, 2005.

Your attention to this Resolution is requested.

John Mascio

Chief Clerk

Allegheny County Council

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Allegheny

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PHONE (412) 350-6490 • FAX (412) 350-6499



MEMORANDUM

To: Evelyn Stypula
From: John Mascio, Chief Clerk
Date: July 21, 2005
Subject: Resolution No. 31-05-RE

As you requested in our phone conversation, enclosed is a copy of Resolution No. 31-05-RE urging the General Assembly to pass House Bill 1479 to establish an Office for People with Disabilities.

As you also requested, I have enclosed a list of County Council Members with their mailing address and phone numbers.

I am glad to have assisted you in this matter.