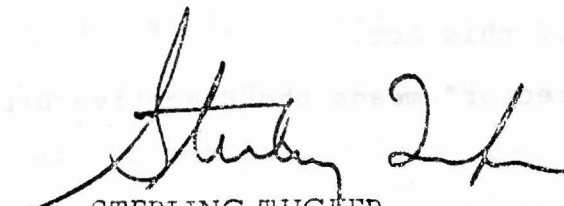


COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 412 of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act, PL 93-198, (the Act), the Council of the District of Columbia adopted Bill No. 1-106 on first and second readings June 17, 1975, and July 1, 1975, respectively. Following the signature of the Mayor on July 25, 1975, this legislation was assigned Act No. 1-36, published in the August 6, 1975, edition of the D. C. Register, and transmitted to both Houses of Congress for a 30-day review, in accordance with Section 602(c)(1) of the Act.

The Council of the District of Columbia hereby gives notice that the 30-day Congressional review period has expired and, therefore, cites the following legislation as D. C. Law No. 1-24, effective October 29, 1975.


STERLING TUCKER
Chairman of the Council

10 NOV 1975

D. C. Law No. 1-24

In the Council of the District of Columbia

October 29, 1975

A bill to establish an Office on Aging and a Commission on Aging, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Council of the District of Columbia, That this act may be cited as "the District of Columbia Act on the Aging".

Title I. Statement of Purpose

Sec. 101. It is the intent of the Council of the District of Columbia that the District government shall insure a full range of health, education, employment, and social services shall be available to the aged in the District of Columbia, and the planning and operation of such programs will be undertaken as a partnership of older citizens, families, community leaders, private agencies, and the District of Columbia government.

Title II. Definitions

Sec. 201. (a) "Office" means the Office on Aging created by section 301 of this Act.

(b) "Director" means the Executive Director of the Office on Aging.

(c) "Commission" means the Commission on the Aging created by section 401 of this act.

(d) "Aged" means a person 60 years of age or older.

(e) "Services to the aged" means those services designed to provide assistance to the aged, including nutritional programs,

transportation and legal services, health and financial assistance, employment and housing programs, recreational opportunities, and information, referral, and counseling services.

Title III. Office on Aging

Sec. 301. Establishment. There is established within the Executive Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia an Office on Aging. The Office shall provide within the District government a single administrative unit, responsible to the Mayor, to administer the provisions of the Older Americans Act (P.L. 89-73, as amended), such other programs as shall be delegated to it by the Mayor or the Council of the District of Columbia, and to promote the welfare of the aged.

Sec. 302. Staffing of office. The Office shall be headed by an Executive Director, who shall be appointed by the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council of the District of Columbia, from a list of not more than three names submitted to him by the Commission. The Director shall devote his full time to the duties of his office. His annual compensation shall be fixed in accordance with chapter 51 of Title 5, U.S. Code (relating to the classification of government employees and related matters), but shall be not less than a GS-15, step one. He shall have such staff as is approved in the current District government budget and Federal grants, plus any temporary staff approved by the Office of Budget and Management Systems.

Sec. 303. Functions of Director. In order to carry out the purpose of this act, the Director shall:

1. Serve as an advocate for the aged in the District of Columbia.

2. Contract with, and make grants to, public and private agencies using Older Americans Act funds, other Federal funds received by the Office, and District government appropriated funds.

3. Provide information and technical assistance with respect to programs and services for the aged to the Mayor, the Commission on Aging, the Council of the District of Columbia, other District government agencies and departments, and the community. This shall include, when necessary, contracting for consultant assistance outside the District government.

4. Consider the advice and recommendations of the Commission in carrying out his responsibilities under this act.

5. File an annual report on the operation of the Office with the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia, and make it available to the public.

6. Publish a directory of services available to the aged through the District government and including, to the maximum extent possible, sources of non-public assistance and programs for the aged in the District of Columbia. The directory shall be revised at least every two years.

7. Identify areas of need for service or improvement of service and bring them to the attention of the Mayor and Commission, with suggestions for meeting such needs, including conducting or funding research and demonstration projects to test such suggestions.

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8. Carry responsibility for assuring necessary control, evaluation, audit, and reporting on programs funded through the office.

9. Prepare in timely fashion the state plan required under the Older Americans Act and forward it to the Commission and Mayor for approval.

10. Develop, with the advice of the Commission, a five-year plan of policies, programs, services and activities to benefit aged residents of the District of Columbia. Such plan shall be reviewed and up-dated annually.

Sec. 304. All heads of departments and agencies of the District government are required at least 30 days prior to implementation of any proposed policies or programs that will have a major impact on the aged to submit such proposals to the Director for comment. If the impact of the proposal is determined by the Director to be adverse, he shall file a statement of this finding with the Mayor, the Commission, and the Council of the District of Columbia, as well as the originating department or agency.

Sec. 305. Development of standards for grant and contract awards. After consultation with the Commission on Aging established by Section 401 of this act, the Director shall develop and publish the standards that the Office will use in making decisions on the award of grants and contracts.

Sec. 306. Transfer of positions and funds. The Division of Services to the Aging presently located within the Department of Human Resources, and all positions and unexpended funds

presently allocated to this Division are hereby transferred to the new office created under Section 301 of this Act.

Title IV. Commission on Aging

Sec. 401. Establishment. There is hereby established in the Executive Office of the Mayor of the District of Columbia a Commission on Aging to advise the Mayor, the Director of the Office on Aging, the Council of the District of Columbia, and the public concerning the views and needs of the aged in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 402. Membership of Commission. The Commission shall consist of fifteen public (voting) members appointed by the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council of the District of Columbia. At least one-half of the membership of the Commission shall consist of actual consumers of services under this program, including low income, and minority older persons, at least in proportion to the number of minority older persons in the District of Columbia. There shall also be the following ex-officio members: the Directors of the Department of Human Resources, the Office of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Recreation, the Department of Highways and Traffic, the Office of Manpower Administration, the Public Library; the Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department (or the Director or chief of such successor agencies), and a member of the Council of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 403. Qualifications for membership. Members shall be appointed with due consideration for fair geographical distribution, representation from organizations of older persons, public and voluntary agencies concerned with the aged,

and members of the general public who have given evidence of particular dedication to and understanding of the needs of the aged. At least eight members shall be 60 years of age or over, and all must be residents of the District of Columbia.

Sec. 404. Terms of office. Members of the Commission shall serve terms of three years except, that, of the initial membership, five shall be appointed for a term of three years, five for a term of two years, and five for one year. Members may be reappointed but may serve no more than two consecutive terms. Terms shall regularly begin on the anniversary of the effective date of this act.

Sec. 405. Appointments to vacancies. When a vacancy develops on the Commission, the Mayor with the advice and consent of the Council of the District of Columbia may appoint a successor to fill the unexpired portion of the term. No member may continue to serve beyond the expiration date of his term. If within 30 calendar days of development of a vacancy on the Commission the Mayor fails to transmit to the Council of the District of Columbia a nomination for that vacancy, the Council of the District of Columbia may make the appointment. If within 60 calendar days of submission of a nomination for the Commission the Council of the District of Columbia fails to act, the nomination shall be deemed confirmed.

Sec. 406. Rules of procedure. The Commission shall develop its own rules of procedure, except they shall provide, the Commission shall meet at least every other month.

Sec. 407. Selection of Chairperson. The Commission shall select its own Chairperson, by vote.

Sec. 408. Compensation. All members shall serve without compensation, but expenses incurred by the Commission as a whole, or by its individual members, when duly authorized, will become an obligation against appropriate District government and Federal funds designated for that purpose.

Sec. 409. Staff assistance. Necessary staff services shall be supplied in accordance with positions and funding approved in the current District government budget. In addition, the Director of the Office on Aging shall provide information and technical assistance as required under Sec. 303.

Sec. 410. Functions of Commission. The Commission on Aging shall:

- A. Serve as an advocate for older persons in the District of Columbia.
- B. Review and submit to the Mayor, the Council of the District of Columbia, the Office on Aging, an annual report including analysis of the needs of the aged in the District of Columbia.
- C. Cooperate with other agencies (Federal, State, private) concerned with activities pertaining to the aged.
- D. Approve in timely fashion the annual state plan required under the Older Americans Act, and submit it to the Mayor for transmission to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The statement of approval of the Commission shall be transmitted to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare with the plan.
- E. Develop a list of not more than three persons the Commission recommends for the position of Director of the

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Office on Aging, whenever that position is vacant, and submit that list to the Mayor.

F. Conduct or participate in public hearings and other forums to determine views of older persons and other members of the public on matters affecting the health, safety and welfare of the aged in the District of Columbia.

G. Bring to the attention of the Mayor and the Office on Aging cases of neglect and abuse of the aged and incidents of bias against the aged in the administration of the laws of the District of Columbia.

H. Review and comment on proposed District and Federal legislation, regulations, policies and programs and make policy recommendations on issues affecting the health, safety and welfare of the aged.

I. Provide a continuing review of the activities of the Office on Aging and issue reports thereon at least annually.

Sec. 411. The District of Columbia Advisory Committee on Aging, established by Organization Order No. 20, dated May 12, 1969, as amended by Order No. 75-67, is hereby abolished.

Title V. Effective Date

Sec. 501. This act shall be effective immediately at the end of the thirty day period (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and days on which either House of Congress is not in session) beginning on the date this act is submitted to the Congress, as provided in section 602(c) of the District of Columbia Self-Government and Governmental Reorganization Act.