EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER Forty One

TO: Heads of All State Departments and Agencies

RE: Council on Deaf Equality

WHEREAS, the Council on Deaf Equality, known as CODE, was informally established in 1978 to increase the knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of the rights of hearing impaired citizens of the State of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 1980, Governor Pierre S. du Pont, IV, signed Executive Order Number Eighty-Eight which officially recognized and formally constituted the Council on Deaf Equality; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order establishing the Council on Deaf Equality was amended by Executive Order Number One Hundred Eighteen on June 18, 1980, whereby the number of members of CODE was changed from seventeen (17) to nineteen (19); and

WHEREAS, the Council on Deaf Equality desires to continue its existence pursuant to an Executive Order signed by Governor Michael N. Castle; and

WHEREAS, the Council on Deaf Equality desires to increase its membership from nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25) to include representatives from each of the following service systems which provide direct assistance to the hearing impaired: Deaf Contact; Community Legal Aid, Inc./Disabilities Law Program; Delaware Elwyn, Inc.; Bureau of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse; Client Assistance Program; and Independent Living, Inc.
WHEREAS, the Council on Deaf Equality, which consists of representatives of various state agencies which work with the hearing impaired, as well as hearing impaired citizens and parents of hearing impaired individuals and representatives of the public at large, is making a valuable contribution in dealing with the needs and concerns of hearing impaired people in the State; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the Council on Deaf Equality be officially recognized and formally continued;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL N. CASTLE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Delaware, do hereby order and declare as follows:

ESTABLISHMENT:

1. The Council on Deaf Equality (CODE) is hereby continued.

PURPOSE:

2. The purposes of CODE are as follows:

   a. To increase the knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of the rights of hearing impaired citizens in the State of Delaware;

   b. To work for improving the quality and increasing the capacity of services to hearing impaired people in Delaware;

   c. To promote coordination between State agencies, programs, and services for the hearing impaired.

MEMBERSHIP:

3. CODE shall consist of twenty five (25) members as follows:

   (a) Eleven (11) members who are representatives of the following divisions, agencies, and commissions of state government and who shall be appointed by the division or agency head or commission chairperson:

       (1) Division of Aging, Department of Health and Social Services;

       (2) Division of Mental Health, Department of Health and Social Services;

       (3) Division of Public Health (Speech/Hearing), Department of Health and Social Services;
(4) Division of Child Protective Services, Department of Health and Social Services;

(5) Division of Economic Services, Department of Health and Social Services;

(6) Division of State Service Centers, Department of Health and Social Services;

(7) Division of Employment Services, Department of Labor;

(8) Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Labor;

(9) Division of Exceptional Children, Department of Public Instruction;

(10) Division of Vocational Education, Department of Public Instruction;

(11) Postsecondary Education Commission.

(b) The Administrator of the Sterk School for the Hearing Impaired or his designee;

(c) A representative of the Sterk School Parent-Teacher Association, as appointed by the President of the Association;

(d) A representative of the Delaware Register of Interpreters for the Deaf (DELRID), as appointed by the President of DELRID;

(e) A representative of Deaf Contact, as appointed by its President;

(f) A representative of Community Legal Aid Society, Inc./Disabilities Law Program, as appointed by its Director;

(g) A representative of Delaware Elwyn, Inc., as appointed by its President;

(h) A representative of the Bureau of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, as appointed by its Director;

(i) A representative of the Client Assistance Program, as appointed by its Director;

(j) A representative of Independent Living, Inc., as appointed by its President
(k) Five (5) members elected by the twenty (20) members specified in Paragraphs 3 (a – j) above, as follows:

1. Three (3) hearing impaired individuals;
2. The parent of a hearing impaired child;
3. One member of the general public.

TERMS OF MEMBERS; VACANCIES:

4. Each member of CODE shall serve for a one-year term but may be reappointed or re-elected for any number of subsequent terms. The agency or division head, commission chairperson or association president shall appoint a replacement to fill any vacancy which may occur in the membership positions listed in Paragraphs 3(a–j) and the membership may elect a new member to fill any vacancy in a membership position listed in Paragraph 3(k). Members may send a duly authorized alternate to attend a meeting when the member is unable to attend, but the regular member shall still be considered absent. Any member who misses three (3) meetings of CODE, during the course of one calendar year, shall be presumed to have resigned from CODE.

CHAIRPERSON AND OFFICERS:

5. The membership of CODE shall select its own Chairperson, who shall serve a one-year term and is eligible for selection to any number of subsequent terms. CODE may also select such other officers as it deems appropriate.

MEETINGS:

6. CODE shall hold such meetings as the members shall determine, but shall meet at least three (3) times each year. Thirteen (13) members of CODE, or their duly authorized alternates, shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of members present and voting shall be required for any action to take effect. Duly authorized alternates may vote as members. All meetings of CODE shall be open to all interested persons who wish to attend. However, such persons shall not be entitled to vote.
POWERS:

7. CODE shall have the power necessary to adopt by-laws and rules for its organization and the conduct of its business, to establish committees, and to specify the duties of its officers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, MICHAEL N. CASTLE, Governor of the State of Delaware, have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Delaware to be hereunto affixed at Wilmington, this Sixth day of April, in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, two hundred and tenth.

[Signature]
Governor

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Secretary of State