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I N S E N A T E

January 29, 2010

Introduced by Sen. MAZIARZ -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation

AN ACT to amend the arts and cultural affairs law, in relation to the appointment of local historians in the county of Niagara

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 57.07 of the arts and cultural
2 affairs law, as amended by chapter 737 of the laws of 1987, is amended
3 to read as follows:
4 1. A local historian shall be appointed, as provided in this section,
5 for each city, town or village, except that in a city of over one
6 million inhabitants a local historian shall be appointed for each
7 borough therein instead of for the city at large; and a county historian
8 may be appointed for each county. Such historian shall be appointed as
9 follows: For a city, by the mayor; for a borough, by the borough presi-
10 dent; for a town, by the supervisor; for a village, by the mayor; for a
11 county, by the board of supervisors. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THE COUNTY
12 HISTORIAN FOR THE COUNTY OF NIAGARA AND THE LOCAL HISTORIAN FOR ANY
13 CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE LOCATED WITHIN THE COUNTY OF NIAGARA SHALL BE
14 APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF SUCH COUNTY, CITY, TOWN OR
15 VILLAGE AND THE APPOINTMENT OF SUCH HISTORIANS, AS WELL AS ANY DEPUTY
16 HISTORIANS WORKING WITH SUCH HISTORIANS, SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO CIVIL
17 SERVICE REQUIREMENTS. Such historian shall serve without compensation,
18 unless the governing board of the city, town, village or county for or
19 in which he or she was appointed or in the city of New York, the mayor,
20 shall otherwise provide. In a city having a board of estimate, other
21 than the city of New York, a resolution or ordinance establishing
22 compensation or salary for such historian shall not take effect without
23 the concurrence of such board. Each local government historian shall
24 promote the establishment and improvement of programs for the management
25 and preservation of local government records with enduring value for
26 historical or other research; encourage the coordinated collection and
27 preservation of nongovernmental historical records by libraries, histor-

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 ical societies, and other repositories; and carry out and actively
2 encourage research in such records in order to add to the knowledge,
3 understanding and appreciation of the community's history. The local
4 authorities of the city, town, village or county for which such histori-
5 an is appointed, may provide the historian with sufficient space in a
6 safe, vault or other fire proof structure for the preservation of
7 historical materials collected. Such local authorities and also the
8 board of supervisors of each of the counties of the state are hereby
9 authorized and empowered to appropriate, raise by tax and expend moneys
10 for historical purposes within their several jurisdictions, including
11 historical edifices, the erection of historical markers and monuments,
12 the collection of war mementos, and, either alone or in cooperation with
13 patriotic or historical organizations, the preparation and publication
14 of local histories and records and the printing and issuing of other
15 historical materials in aid of the work of the local historian.
16 S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.