

STATE OF DELAWARE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

DOVER

EXECUTIVE ORDER
NUMBER EIGHTY

TO: HEADS OF ALL STATE DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES, AUTHORITIES AND
GOVERNMENTAL UNITS OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

RE: ESTABLISHING THE COUNCIL ON DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
EQUALITY AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

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. duPont, IV, signed Executive Order Number Eighty-Eight which officially recognized and formally constituted the Council on Deaf Equality (CODE); and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order establishing the Council on Deaf Equality was amended by Executive Order Number One Hundred Eighteen on October 22, 1982, whereby the number of members of CODE was changed from seventeen (17) to nineteen (19); and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order establishing the Council on Deaf Equality was again amended by Executive Order Number Forty-One signed by Governor Michael N. Castle on April 6, 1987, whereby the number of members of CODE was changed from nineteen (19) to twenty-five (25), and whereby the Council on Deaf Equality was officially recognized and formally continued; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order establishing the Council on Deaf Equality was again amended by Executive Order Number Seventy-Seven by Governor Michael Castle on November 22, 1989, whereby the Council on Deaf Equality increased its membership to include other representatives from agencies which have an interest in persons with hearing impairments; and

WHEREAS, the Council on Deaf Equality desires to formally change its name to the Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Equality; change its purpose consistent with

current operations; and change its formal membership to better facilitate the activities of the Council; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the newly titled Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Equality (CODHHE) be officially recognized and formally established;

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

1. Executive Orders Eighty-Eight, One Hundred Eighteen, Forty-One, and Seventy-Seven relating to CODE are rescinded.

ESTABLISHMENT:

2. The Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Equality is hereby established.

PURPOSE:

3. The purpose of CODHHE is as follows:

- a. To increase knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of the rights of individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing in the State of Delaware;
- b. To work for a better quality of life for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing in the State of Delaware;
- c. To promote coordination among state agencies, programs, and services for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing;
- d. To monitor and advise the Delaware Office for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing with respect to the services it provides;
- e. To inform and advocate with service providers for improved services for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing;
- f. To provide policy makers and the general public with an analysis and recommendations on federal, state and local legislation, regulations and policies affecting state programs for individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing.

MEMBERSHIP:

4. CODHHE shall consist of the following members: individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing; legal representatives or guardians of individuals

who are deaf or hard of hearing; state and local agency representatives; representatives from statewide deaf and hard of hearing consumer organizations; family members of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing; and other individuals and entities as approved by both CODHHE and the affected person or entity.

MEETINGS:

5. CODHHE shall meet no less than five (5) times per year. A simple majority of all CODHHE members or their duly authorized alternates shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote of members present shall be required for any action. Duly authorized alternates may vote as members. All meetings of CODHHE shall be open to all interested parties who wish to attend; however, such persons shall not be entitled to vote.

POWERS:

6. CODHHE shall have the power necessary to adopt by-laws and rules for its organization and the conduct of business; to establish committees; and to specify officers, terms of members and officers, procedures to fill member vacancies, and duties of its officers.

Approved this 7th day of July 2000.


Governor

Attest:


Secretary of State

