

RESOLUTION NO. 325

DIRECTING THE COMMISSIONER OF AGING TO ESTABLISH A CELL PHONE RECYCLING PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

Introduced: 7/9/07

By Ms. Barlette, Public Safety Committee, Messrs. Ward, Aidala, Beston, Clay, Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Mr. Shafer, Ms. Willingham, Messrs. Aylward, Burke, Clenahan, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Gordon, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Infante, Joyce, Mayo, McCoy, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Monjeau, Morse, Nichols, Rahm, Reilly, Riddick, Steck, Mss. Wiley, Benedict, Messrs. Carman, Clouse, Hoblock, Ms. Prentiss and Mr. Tunny:

WHEREAS, In the event of an emergency, senior citizens are amongst the most vulnerable citizens in Albany County, and

WHEREAS, Senior citizens are on a fixed income and are often unable to purchase a cell phone, and

WHEREAS, The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) has found that cell phone owners over the age of 65 use cell phones primarily for emergency purposes, and

WHEREAS, Cell phones have been utilized to quickly contact emergency services in emergencies and allow for the prompt dispatching of first responders, and

WHEREAS, Providing senior citizens with free cell phones for emergency use will improve the safety and security of Albany County senior citizens, and

WHEREAS, Cell phone recycling programs have been successfully established in municipalities across the country at little or no cost to the public, and

WHEREAS, Existing programs have successfully equipped seniors with a mobile means of contacting help in the event of emergency, and

WHEREAS, Recycled cell phones have no monthly service charge and will provide a free and effective means of contacting emergency services, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Director of Aging establish a cell phone recycling program whereby cell phones can be donated by the general public and distributed free of charge to Albany County senior residents over age 65, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Public Safety Committee. 7/9/07

Adopted by unanimous vote. 10/9/07