

# **ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

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*Representing Buffalo & Tonawanda*



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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Feline Adoption Promotion Act Signed into Law for Erie County**

*Law shortens the waiting period for cat adoptions from shelters and rescues agencies*

Erie County, NY – On Tuesday, the Erie County Executive signed into law the Feline Adoption Promotion Act of 2019, an Erie County local law that shortens the mandatory waiting period for cat adoptions in Erie County to three days. The Feline Adoption Promotion Act was sponsored by Erie County Legislature Chair Peter Savage and it was approved unanimously by the Erie County Legislature in March.

“I would like to thank the County Executive for supporting this legislation and prioritizing the needs of the SPCA Serving Erie County and the Buffalo Animal Shelter. This law is truly in the best interest of both our local shelters and the animals they selflessly care for. Cats are now able to be adopted, transferred to rescue programs, and treated for sickness faster. I am grateful for the rescue kitten my daughters were able to adopt, and I know many more families will be thankful to find a pet to love.”

SPCA Serving Erie County President and CEO Gary Willoughby II said, “We are grateful for the leadership shown by the Erie County Legislature and the County Executive in adopting this new law to help cats in Erie County. This legislation will allow us to prepare stray cats for adoption more quickly, reducing their time in cages, where they risk getting stressed or sick. It also allows us to reduce our waiting list when other cats need to come to our facility. In the end, we will be able to help more cats get the medical care they need and find new, loving homes in our community.”

The local law will go into effect immediately upon its certification by the New York Secretary of State. Many local municipalities have already taken these measures for canine adoptions. This law assures cats the same protections and health benefits.

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