

LOCAL LAW NO. \_\_\_\_-2026

A LOCAL LAW TO AUTHORIZE ONONDAGA COUNTY TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE GIFTS, CONTRIBUTIONS, AND DONATIONS, AND REPEALING LOCAL LAWS NO. 3-1996, 10-2007, AND 4-2025

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Individuals and organizations occasionally desire to make gifts, contributions, and donations to Onondaga County.

Section 2. Pursuant to County Law Section 215 and the Onondaga County Charter and Code, the Onondaga County Legislature must approve by resolution the acceptance of any gift, contribution, or donation.

Section 3. There is an expense involved in bringing a resolution through the legislative process, and there are circumstances, such as in the case of small gifts, contributions, and donations, where the expense is unnecessary.

Section 4. It is the desire of this Legislature to eliminate the necessity of incurring the cost of bringing a resolution through the Legislature process for gifts, contributions, or donations worth no more than one thousand five-hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), on behalf of Onondaga County, and without further action by this Legislature.

Section 5. Friends groups exist to enhance and support the operations of various County parks. This Local Law shall apply to all County friends groups, including but not limited to: Friends of Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery, Friends of Beaver Lake, Inc., Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Friends of Historic Onondaga Lake, and Friends of the Onondaga County Aquarium.

Section 6. It is the desire of this Legislature to allow for gifts, contributions, or donations from the friends groups, up to a value of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), to be accepted without further action by this Legislature.

Section 7. This Legislature hereby authorizes the Chief Fiscal Officer of Onondaga County to accept and appropriate gifts, donations, or contributions, as set forth in Sections 4 and 6 herein, without action by this Legislature.

Section 8. This Legislature hereby authorizes the Comptroller of Onondaga County to adjust the County budget to account for the receipt of such gifts, contributions, or donations.

Section 9. The Chief Fiscal Officer, upon acceptance and appropriation of each such gift, contribution, or donation, shall notify the Chair of the Onondaga County Legislature, Floor Leaders, and the Chair of the appropriate committee or committees of such legislature. Each such notification shall be itemized and state, for each gift, contribution, or donation, the name of each donor, amount, and date received by the County, with donor names protected consistent with applicable law. In addition, the Chief Fiscal Officer shall provide a quarterly written report to the Clerk of the Legislature no later than March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1 of each year specifying each item received during the quarter immediately preceding such report. Such quarterly reports shall be itemized to report separately each gift, contribution, or donation and the amount and date received.

Section 10. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as precluding the Onondaga County Legislature from accepting or refusing to accept any gift, contribution, or donation valued at less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) from the friends groups, or from all others at a value less than one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), nor as requiring the Chief Fiscal Officer to accept any such gift, contribution, or donation.

Section 11. The Legislature appropriated \$85,434,751 for the purpose of constructing the Harbor View Aquarium pursuant to Resolution No. 119-2022, and, except with respect to donations authorized under Local Laws No. 3-1996, 10-2007, and this Local Law, does not intend, presently or in the future, to appropriate any additional funds for the Harbor View Aquarium.

Section 12. Local Laws No. 3-1996, 10-2007, and 4-2025, are hereby repealed.

Section 13. This Local Law shall take effect upon filing, and pursuant to the provisions of Municipal Home Rule Law.