**Section 230.41 Advocacy**

In relation to the stated function of serving as the effective and visible advocate of all older persons in the State, the Department shall:

a) Review and comment on all State plans, budgets, and policies which affect older persons.

b) Conduct public hearings on the needs of older persons.

c) Coordinate the Statewide planning and development activities related to the purpose of the Act.

d) Assure that each area agency on aging has in place and adheres to effective procedures to coordinate all programs related to the purposes of the Act within the planning and service area for which they have responsibility.

e) Represent the interests of older persons before legislative, executive, and regulatory bodies throughout the State.

f) Provide technical assistance to agencies, organizations, associations, or individuals representing older persons.

g) Establish and operate a long-term care ombudsman program pursuant to subsection (b) of this Section.

h) Review and comment, upon request, on applications to State and Federal agencies for assistance relating to meeting the needs of older persons.

(Source: Amended at 10 Ill. Reg. 5787, effective March 27, 1986)