

Senate Resolution No. 1702

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Michael "Double M" Moorer upon the occasion of his induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame and Museum

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding professionals in the boxing industry who distinguished themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; Michael "Double M" Moorer is one such individual and his life of achievements inspired others and contributed to the respect and admiration of the sport of boxing; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Michael "Double M" Moorer upon the occasion of his induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame and Museum; he will be honored within the Modern category of boxers at the 35th Anniversary celebration from June 6-9, 2024, in Canastota, New York; and

WHEREAS, Born in Brooklyn, New York on November 12, 1967, Michael Moorer grew up in Monessen, Pennsylvania and began boxing when his grandfather took him to the local gym; and

WHEREAS, Relocating to Detroit, Michael Moorer trained under Emanuel Steward at the famous Kronk Gym before achieving professional status in 1988; winning his first 26 contests with knockouts, in his 12th bout he captured the inaugural WBO light heavyweight title with a 5th round TKO of Ramzi Hassan; and

WHEREAS, Double M successfully defended the crown nine times, including stoppages over Frankie Swindell (TKO 6) and Leslie Stewart (TKO 8), before vacating the belt and moving to heavyweight in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Wins over Levi Billups (TKO 3), Mike White (W 10), and Everett Martin (W 10) preceded a WBO heavyweight title winning fight against Bert Cooper (TKO 5) in 1992 to become the first southpaw heavyweight champion in history; and

WHEREAS, Two years later, Michael Moorer captured the WBA / IBF titles with a 12-round win over Evander Holyfield; he lost the titles to George Foreman (KO by 10), but rebounded to regain the IBF strap from Axel Schultz (W 12) in 1996; and

WHEREAS, After two defenses in matches against Frans Botha (TKO 12) and Vaughn Bean (W 12), Michael Moorer lost a rematch with Holyfield (TKO by 8); and

WHEREAS, Inactive for three years following the Holyfield loss, Michael Moorer returned to the ring in 2000 and fought until 2008; Double M retired with a pro ledger of 52-4-1 (40 KOs); and

WHEREAS, Michael "Double M" Moorner clearly contributed to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of the International Boxing Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that when individuals of such outstanding accomplishments are brought to our attention, they should be recognized by all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Michael "Double M" Moorner upon the occasion of his induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame and Museum; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Michael "Double M" Moorner.