

Senate Resolution No. 1704

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Richard John Hatton 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; Richard John Hatton 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 Richard John Hatton 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, Richard John Hatton was born in Stockport, Cheshire, United Kingdom, on October 6, 1978; and

WHEREAS, Following an amateur record of 73-7, Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton turned professional in 1997; in 2001, he defeated Tony Pep (TKO 4), winning the World Boxing Union (WBU) super lightweight title, and reigned until 2004, scoring victories over Freddie Pendelton (KO 2), Eamonn Magee (W 12), Vince Phillips (W 12), Ben Tackie (W 12), Michael Stewart (TKO 5), and Ray Oliveira (KO 10) before facing International Boxing Federation (IBF) king Kostya Tszyu; and

WHEREAS, In front of a raucous Manchester crowd, Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton scored an upset as Kostya Tszyu did not show for the 12th round; he added the World Boxing Association (WBA) belt with a ninth-round knockout over Carlos Maussa and was named The Ring's 2005 "Fighter of the Year"; and

WHEREAS, Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton became a two-weight champion with a triumph over Luis Collazo (W 12) for the WBA welterweight belt in 2006; victories over Juan Urango (W 12) for the International Boxing Organization (IBO) light welterweight belt and Jose Luis Castillo (KO 4) preceded a World Boxing Council (WBC) welterweight title match against Floyd Mayweather, Jr. (TKO 10); and

WHEREAS, Making a comeback with two victories against Juan Lazcano (W 12) and Paulie Malignaggi (TKO 11), Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton challenged Manny Pacquiao (KO 2) in 2009; for three years, he remained inactive but returned for one more challenge, a ninth-round loss to Vyacheslav Senchenko in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Ricky "The Hitman" Hatton retired with a professional

docket of 45-3 (32 KOs); attaining the Member of the British Empire (MBE) award for services to the boxing sport in 2007, he is known as one of the most beloved British fighters of all time; while retired, he trains and promotes potential champion boxers in the United Kingdom; and

WHEREAS, Richard John Hatton 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 Richard John Hatton 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 Richard John Hatton.