

Senate Resolution No. 303

BY: Senator KENNEDY

HONORING the members of the Buffalo Bills Training and Medical Staff for their immediate and heroic actions in saving the life of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals within the State of New York who, in the course of their jobs, perform acts of heroic dimension; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor the members of the Buffalo Bills Training and Medical Staff for their immediate and heroic actions in saving the life of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin; and

WHEREAS, On Monday, January 2, 2023, during the primetime NFL Week 17 match-up between the Buffalo Bills and the Cincinnati Bengals, 24-year-old Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin went into cardiac arrest after making a routine tackle within the first nine minutes of the game's first quarter; and

WHEREAS, Damar Hamlin's heartbeat was restored on the field at Paycor Stadium after Buffalo Bills' Training and Medical Staff, most notably Assistant Athletic Trainer Denny Kellington, spent several minutes administering CPR surrounded by players from both organizations who circled together and knelt in prayer; and

WHEREAS, With his fight captivating the world, Damar Hamlin spent most of the days following his collapse on a ventilator in critical condition at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center while the NFL world, the sports world, and all of humanity came together in support of No. 3; and

WHEREAS, Damar Hamlin's recovery continues to trend in a positive direction; his ventilator was removed, his neurologic function remains intact, and he has since been released from the hospital and returned to his beloved community of Buffalo, New York, all thanks to the preparedness and expertise of this extraordinary Buffalo Bills care team; and

WHEREAS, Justly recognized as heroes, the training and medical staff of the Buffalo Bills richly merit the admiration of this Legislative Body and the Buffalo community for their consummate, swift action in saving the life of this young man; and

WHEREAS, Moreover, they should be meritoriously commended for remaining calm under pressure and for showing valor and true courage while performing this lifesaving deed; and

WHEREAS, In the performance of their duties, the remarkable members

of the Buffalo Bills Training and Medical Staff demonstrated their character as well as their compassion for the welfare of their team; they truly are tremendous assets to the Buffalo Bills organization; and

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body that when an act of such heroism is brought to our official attention, the same should be memorialized for the edification and emulation of all; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor the members of the Buffalo Bills Training and Medical Staff for their immediate and heroic actions in saving the life of Buffalo Bills safety Damar Hamlin; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the members of the Buffalo Bills training and medical staff: Nate Breske, Head Athletic Trainer; Denny Kellington, Assistant Athletic Trainer; Joe Micca, Physical Therapist; Tabani Richards, Assistant Athletic Trainer; Dr. Leslie Bisson, Medical Director; Dr. Tom White, Team Internist; Dr. Mark Kim, Team Internist; Dr. Marc Fineberg, Team Orthopedist; Joe Collins, Director of Sports Performance; Dr. Desaree Festa, Team Sport Psychologist; Marissa Figueroa, Athletic Training Intern; Dr. Zachary Musial, Team Chiropractor; Kelsey Harkins, Coordinator of Player Services; and Kori Reblin, Equipment Assistant.