

2023-J1703

Senate Resolution No. 1703

BY: Senator GRIFFO

HONORING Jackie Kallen upon the occasion of her 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; Jackie Kallen is one such individual and her 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 Jackie Kallen upon the occasion of her induction into the International Boxing Hall of Fame and Museum; inductees will be honored at the 35th Anniversary celebration from June 6-9, 2024, in Canastota, New York; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Kallen was born on April 23, 1946, in Detroit, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, With a background in entertainment and rock music journalism, Jackie Kallen joined the famed Kronk Boxing Club as its publicist in 1978; among the young boxers she was tasked with promoting was Thomas Hearns; and

WHEREAS, In addition to the "Hitman," Jackie Kallen also worked with Milton McCrory, Duane Thomas and Hilmer Kenty before making her managerial debut in 1988 with heavyweight Bobby Hitz; she then signed on to manage a young middleweight named James Toney and expertly guided him to two world championships; and

WHEREAS, Furthermore, she managed junior middleweight champion Bronco McKart and featherweight champion Tom "Boom Boom" Johnson; and

WHEREAS, During her illustrious career, Jackie Kallen also served as commissioner of the International Female Boxing Association (IFBA) and was cast on the hit NBC reality show "The Contender"; and

WHEREAS, Highly regarded for her business acumen and ability to maneuver boxers to great success, Jackie Kallen's life story was told in the major motion picture "Against the Ropes" starring Meg Ryan; still active, she presently manages Mykquan Williams and Sam Rizzo, among others; and

WHEREAS, Jackie Kallen 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 Jackie Kallen upon the occasion of her 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 Jackie Kallen.