

2009-J3005

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION mourning the untimely and tragic death of Firefighter Jonathan Croom of the Buffalo Fire Department

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to citizens of the State of New York whose lifework and civic endeavor served to enhance the quality of life in their communities and the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Jonathan Croom died during a three alarm fire on the morning of Monday, August 24, 2009; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Buffalo Firefighters Union Local No. 282, Jonathan Croom was a 10-year veteran assigned to Ladder 7 and was valiantly fighting the fire at a deli on Genesee Street on the city's East Side; this tragedy was the department's worst loss of life in the last 26 years; and

WHEREAS, Twice, the City of Buffalo honored Firefighter Jonathan Croom for valor, once for helping revive a boy who nearly drowned in 2008, and a year earlier, for rescuing apartment dwellers from a fire; and

WHEREAS, A great asset to society, Firefighter Jonathan Croom is going to be truly missed and will be a great loss to the Buffalo Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; Jona-

than Croom was such a firefighter; and

WHEREAS, Throughout his years of devoted service, Firefighter Jonathan Croom heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; and

WHEREAS, Firefighter Jonathan Croom is survived by his fiancée, Ingrid, his daughter, Joanna, his parents, Jonathan Croom and Maria Heusinger; his siblings Gabriel and Beau, his grandmother, Ana Diaz, and by many loving relatives and friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the untimely and tragic death of Firefighter Jonathan Croom of the Buffalo Fire Department; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Firefighter Jonathan Croom.