

2021-J98

Senate Resolution No. 98

BY: Senator PARKER

MOURNING the death of Floyd Little, college and professional football Hall of Famer and devoted member of his community

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to acknowledge outstanding athletes who distinguish themselves through their exceptional performance, attaining unprecedented success and the highest level of personal achievement; and

WHEREAS, It is with great sorrow and deep regret that this Legislative Body records the passing of Floyd Little, noting the significance of his purposeful life and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Little died on Friday, January 1, 2021, at the age of 78 after nearly a year of battling cancer; and

WHEREAS, Born in Waterbury, Connecticut, Floyd Little was a three-time All-American at Syracuse University; throughout his collegiate career, he ran for 2,704 yards and 46 touchdowns; later, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, In 1967, Floyd Little was the sixth overall pick in the AFL-NFL draft, and subsequently, played nine seasons for the Denver Broncos; throughout his stellar nine-year pro career, he rushed for 6,323 yards and 43 touchdowns and caught 215 passes for 2,418 yards and nine touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, This five-time Pro Bowler led the NFL in rushing in 1971 with 1,133 yards and in touchdown runs in 1973 with 12; he was also one

of the league's best kick returners, leading the AFL in punt returns as a rookie in 1967; and

WHEREAS, A man who truly epitomized sportsmanship, Floyd Little was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2010; and

WHEREAS, From 2011-2016, Floyd Little served as a special assistant to the athletic director at his alma mater, where he received an honorary doctorate degree; and

WHEREAS, Floyd Little is survived by his wife, DeBorah; one son, Marc; and two daughters, Kyra DaCosta and Christy Jones; and

WHEREAS, A gifted athlete, Floyd Little was a renowned role model in the sport of professional football; his character and achievements stand as a sterling example and inspiration to all who would aspire to success; and

WHEREAS, Armed with a humanistic spirit and imbued with a sense of compassion, Floyd Little leaves behind a legacy which will long endure the passage of time and will remain as a comforting memory to all he served and befriended; he will be deeply missed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to mourn the death of Floyd Little, college and professional football Hall of Famer and devoted member of his community, and to offer its sincerest condolences to his family; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the family of Floyd Little.