

2021-J1004

Senate Resolution No. 1004

BY: Senator MARTUCCI

CALLING upon President Joseph R. Biden and both houses of the United States Congress to support creation of a National Emergency Medical Services Memorial

WHEREAS, The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation (NEMSMF) was established on July 6, 2007, with the sole purpose of designing, building, and maintaining a permanent EMS Memorial in Washington, DC, as the prestige of the nation's capital makes it the most appropriate site for a National monument; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Service providers from New York, Boston, Delaware, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Detroit spearheaded the effort to create this national memorial which has grown exponentially and now enjoys enthusiastic support from numerous individuals, communities, and organizations from coast to coast, especially national organizations representing Police, Fire, and EMS providers; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services is a crucial element of the nation's infrastructure and homeland defense strategy, as the men and women of EMS are often our nation's first line of defense in the prevention and mitigation of risk from terrorist attacks, man-made incidents, and natural disasters, putting their lives on the line each and every day in order to provide critical care for their patients; and

WHEREAS, Each year, more than 860,000 EMS providers, dedicated and courageous men and women, answer more than 30 million calls to serve over 22 million patients in need of emergency pre-hospital care at a moment's notice, and they do so without reservation and with little regard for their personal safety; and

WHEREAS, According to the Department of Labor and the National Highway Safety Administration, EMS providers die in the line of duty at a rate of more than twice the national average for all occupational fatalities and seven times higher from violence than all other health care workers and during their careers, EMS providers experience an injury rate of virtually 100%; and

WHEREAS, The National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation seeks to establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington, DC consistent with the Commemorative Works Act in order to guarantee that these men and women, their families, their loved ones are properly recognized for their ultimate sacrifice and to honor their valor, hard work and dedication of all EMS providers, as even those who were killed during the 9/11 attacks were "never remembered"; and

WHEREAS, There is no national memorial that acknowledges and exalts the heroism and outstanding dedication to public service of EMS providers, most especially the long overdue exaltation of the more than 600 men and women of our nation's emergency medical services that have made the ultimate sacrifice while performing their duties; and

WHEREAS, An EMS provider fits the definition of a noble hero, one who runs to danger when others run away, one who runs to assist others without armor or weapon, every day in their countless encounters with the afflicted and injured they use their talent and training to save lives and alleviate suffering, often dealing with many ills and scourges

afflicting our society, racing towards places known for repeated calls for assault or domestic violence, drug locations, gang turfs, they show up to help, they perform with professional zeal to aid cardiac arrest patients, people with infectious diseases and those plagued by the growing epidemic of opioid addiction, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Peter King and Congressman Stephen Lynch have introduced bipartisan legislation, H.R. 1037, a Bill to Establish a National EMS Memorial; this bill seeks to authorize the National EMS Memorial Foundation to undertake this effort of designing, siting, and creating a memorial to be located in Washington, DC, to honor the service and sacrifice of our nation's EMS providers; now, therefore, be it

WHEREAS, That President Joseph R. Biden and the Congress of the United States be and hereby are respectfully memorialized by this Legislative Body to strongly support the National EMS Memorial Foundation's efforts to establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington, DC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to applaud the Congressmen's efforts for their leadership in this matter and stand in full support of H.R. 1037, a Bill to Establish a National EMS Memorial in Washington, DC; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to urge all New Yorkers to recognize the bravery and work of EMS providers and to support this endeavor; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause further to call on all municipal, state, and federal elected officials to support this endeavor as well; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the President of the United States, Joseph R. Biden; Vice President of the United States, Kamala Harris; United States Senator, Charles Schumer; United States Senator, Kirsten Gillibrand; Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi; and all 27 members of the New York Congressional delegation.