

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED  
BY LEGISLATORS GRANT & BURKE**

**RE: Encouraging the Charitable Use of Empire State Development Corporation's  
"I Love New York" Suite at Ralph Wilson Stadium When Seats Go Unused**

WHEREAS, Empire State Development Corporation's "I Love New York" suite at Ralph Wilson Stadium with 16 seats is operated by Buffalo Niagara Enterprise for the purpose of entertaining business leaders interested in moving to our region; and

WHEREAS, the suite is a community asset held by a State entity for the purpose of community enrichment; and

WHEREAS, the suite is intended to be used not only for "encouraging and fostering economic development, tourism and public awareness for the City of Buffalo, Erie County and the State of New York," but also for "charitable or public functions," according to lease documents; and

WHEREAS, only 54 seats of a total of 112 seats were used in the suite during the 2013 season, and the suite was completely unused for the last two games of the season; and

WHEREAS, leaving the suite unoccupied during a game is a loss to the community; and

WHEREAS, our region has many dedicated Bills fans living in urban, suburban, and rural areas that are financially unable to attend the games of their favorite team.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature encourages Empire State Development Corporation and Buffalo Niagara Enterprise to use the "I Love New York" suite at Ralph Wilson Stadium for charitable purposes on all dates where the suite will remain empty, or where seats go unused; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature encourages the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise to establish partnerships with regional non-profits to facilitate that charitable use, with special attention toward reaching youngsters from low income families, military service members and their families, veterans, Scouting organizations, senior citizens, and at-risk youth, from all areas of our region, who, but for a chance to use these seats, may never have an opportunity to watch a Bills game from such a venue as the "I Love New York" suite; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Community Enrichment Committee of this Honorable Body arrange an opportunity for operating officials of the Buffalo Niagara Enterprise to speak to this issue; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to Empire State Development Corporation, Buffalo Niagara Enterprise, the Office of Governor Andrew Cuomo, and to the County Executive.

Fiscal Impact: None for Resolution.