The New York City Council

City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	Res 0897-2003	**Version:** *	**Name:**	Trespass upon the playing area of a professional sporting event is considered an A misdemeanor.
Type:	Resolution		**Status:**	Filed
			In control:	Committee on Public Safety
On agenda:	5/28/2003			
Enactment date:			**Enactment #:**	

Title: Resolution calling upon the State Legislature to amend the Penal Law so that trespass upon the playing area of a professional sporting event is considered an A misdemeanor.

Sponsors: Gifford Miller, Peter F. Vallone, Jr., Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr., Leroy G. Comrie, Jr., Lewis A. Fidler, James F. Gennaro, Melinda R. Katz, Michael C. Nelson, Christine C. Quinn, Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., James Sanders, Jr., David I. Weprin

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Committee Report, 2. Hearing Transcript

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/28/2003	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
5/28/2003	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
6/20/2003	*	Committee on Public Safety	Hearing Held by Committee	
6/20/2003	*	Committee on Public Safety	Laid Over by Committee	
12/31/2003	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 897

Resolution calling upon the State Legislature to amend the Penal Law so that trespass upon the playing area of a professional sporting event is considered an A misdemeanor.

By the Speaker (Council Member Miller) and Council Members Vallone, Addabbo, Comrie, Fidler, Gennaro, Katz, Nelson, Quinn, Recchia, Sanders and Weprin

Whereas, Under current state penal law, trespass on the playing area of a professional sporting event is considered criminal trespass in the third degree, a class B misdemeanor, which, at a maximum, provides for three months in jail; and

Whereas, Such a penalty is not sufficient to deter the behavior of unruly sports fans who, according to sports authorities, have become more emboldened as the number of sports professionals attacked during professional sporting events increases; and

Whereas, For example, on April 15, 2003, the Royals' umpire, Laz Diaz, was attacked and narrowly escaped serious injury in Chicago, by a 24-year-old fan who ran out of the stands and tried to tackle him; this incident was subsequent to three distinct instances of fans running onto the field during earlier innings; and

Whereas, Seven months prior to Diaz's attack, on September 19, 2002, the Royals' coach, Tom Gamboa, was attacked by a 35-year-old father and his 15-year-old son who ran out of the stands and pummeled the 55-year-old Gamboa, who has since suffered a hearing loss in his right ear; and

Whereas, Such incidents point to the need to increase the penalties for this type of behavior, and the State Legislature needs to recognize the seriousness of this activity by making such trespass onto the playing area of a professional sporting event a class A misdemeanor; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the State Legislature to amend the Penal Law so that trespass upon the playing area of a professional sporting event is considered an A misdemeanor.

TB
5/22/03

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