
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 22 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SCAVELLO, FARNESE, MARTIN, GREENLEAF, STREET,
EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, SABATINA, RAFFERTY, DINNIMAN,
RESCHENTHALER, BROWNE, BOSCOLA, COSTA, BARTOLOTTA, BREWSTER,
GORDNER, ARGALL, HUGHES, TARTAGLIONE, BLAKE, LEACH, YUDICHAK,
TOMLINSON, AUMENT, SCHWANK, WAGNER, SCARNATI, FOLMER,
VULAKOVICH AND WARD, FEBRUARY 8, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, FEBRUARY 8, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2017 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and recognizing the month of
3 March 2017 as "National Problem Gambling Awareness Month."

4 WHEREAS, Individuals across the country and in this
5 Commonwealth enjoy the recreational aspects of legalized
6 gambling; and

7 WHEREAS, For some individuals and families, gambling becomes
8 an issue affecting and disrupting the lives of these individuals
9 and their families; and

10 WHEREAS, The National Council of Problem Gambling (NCPG)
11 reports that 2% to 3% of the United States population, which
12 equates to between 6 million and 9 million Americans, will have
13 a gambling problem in any given year; and

14 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is a public health issue affecting
15 individuals of all ages, races and ethnic backgrounds in all
16 communities and has a significant societal and economic cost;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is
3 effective in minimizing the harm to individuals, families and
4 society as a whole; and

5 WHEREAS, Only a limited number of individuals affected by
6 problem gambling seek treatment options and utilize existing
7 problem-gambling programs; and

8 WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, professionals and
9 organizations have dedicated their efforts to public awareness
10 of problem gambling and the availability and effectiveness of
11 treatment; and

12 WHEREAS, The NCPG is coordinating the annual "National
13 Problem Gambling Awareness Month" campaign during March 2017 to
14 educate the public about the impact of problem gambling and the
15 availability of treatment options; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2017
17 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and
18 recognize the month of March 2017 as "National Problem Gambling
19 Awareness Month"; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Pennsylvania Gaming
21 Control Board to continue its outreach efforts and to work with
22 the Pennsylvania gaming industry to develop and implement
23 problem-gambling programs and further promote community-based
24 programs in this Commonwealth; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Department of Health in
26 conjunction with the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs,
27 the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board and individuals,
28 professionals and organizations dedicated to public awareness
29 and treatment of problem gambling to jointly create, develop and
30 promote public awareness campaigns regarding the recognition and

1 prevention of problem gambling; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize that problem gambling is
3 a public health issue impacting residents in this Commonwealth
4 in a harmful way that needs to be addressed in a reasonable and
5 responsible manner; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge all the residents of this
7 Commonwealth to learn more about problem gambling and the
8 programs available to help individuals and their families who
9 have been adversely affected by this issue.