



## Senate Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development

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### Co-sponsorship Memo

**DATE:** January 21, 2011

**TO:** All Senators

**FROM:** Senator Jane M. Earll 

**SUBJECT:** Co-sponsorship – Senate Resolution: Designating “Problem Gambling Awareness Month” (March 2011) in Pennsylvania and Observing “9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Problem Gambling Awareness Week” (March 6 through 12, 2011)

I am introducing a resolution in conjunction with Senator Wayne D. Fontana, Minority Chair of the Senate Committee on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, which designates the month of March 2011 as “Problem Gambling Awareness Month” in Pennsylvania and observes the week of March 6 through 12, 2011, as the “9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Problem Gambling Awareness Week”.

The purpose of this resolution is to help ensure that the citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are informed about the issue of problem gambling and the programs available to help individuals and their families who have been adversely affected by this serious issue. While legalized gambling was designed to allow individuals to enjoy its recreational aspects and to foster economic development in this Commonwealth, Pennsylvanians must also be aware that a small percentage (2% to 3% according to the National Council on Problem Gambling) of the United States population will have a gambling problem in any given year. This awareness and knowledge will help ensure that problem gambling is adequately identified and addressed.

The resolution urges the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to continue its outreach efforts and to work with the Pennsylvania gaming industry as a whole to develop and implement problem gambling programs at licensed facilities and further promote community-based programs in the Commonwealth.

If you would like to either co-sponsor this resolution or have any questions, please contact Lauren Clark at [lclark@pasen.gov](mailto:lclark@pasen.gov) by **Thursday, January 27, 2011**.