
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 151 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY PICKETT AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 13, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 13, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2013 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and observing the week of
3 March 3 through 9, 2013, as "National Problem Gambling
4 Awareness Week."

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

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is

1 effective in minimizing the harm to individuals, families and
2 society as a whole; and

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

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

10 WHEREAS, The NCPG is coordinating the Eleventh Annual
11 National Problem Gambling Awareness Week campaign during March 3
12 through 9, 2013, which seeks to educate the public about the
13 impact of problem gambling and the availability of treatment
14 options; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
16 month of March 2013 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in
17 Pennsylvania and observe the week of March 3 through 9, 2013, as
18 "National Problem Gambling Awareness Week"; and be it further

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

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

1 recognition and prevention of problem gambling; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all the
4 citizens of this Commonwealth to learn more about problem
5 gambling and the programs available to help individuals and
6 their families who have been adversely affected by this issue.