
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 647 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY GINGRICH, McGEEHAN, SONNEY, V. BROWN, READSHAW,
KIRKLAND, D. COSTA, KAUFFMAN, KOTIK, BAKER, MAJOR, LONGIETTI,
CUTLER AND GRELL, FEBRUARY 5, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
FEBRUARY 5, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2014 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

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

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

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

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

17 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 First National Problem
11 Gambling Awareness Month during March, which seeks to educate
12 the public about the impact of problem gambling and the
13 availability of treatment options; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
15 month of March 2014 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in
16 Pennsylvania; and be it further

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

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

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