
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 40 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY SCAVELLO, FARNESE, STREET, FONTANA, ARGALL,
BROWNE, AUMENT, BREWSTER, HUGHES, GORDNER, SCHWANK AND
KILLION, MARCH 18, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MARCH 18, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2019 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and recognizing the month of
3 March 2019 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 4 million and 6 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;
17 and

18 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 annual "National
11 Problem Gambling Awareness Month" campaign during March 2019 to
12 educate the public about the impact of problem gambling and the
13 availability of treatment options; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2019
15 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and
16 recognize the month of March 2019 as "National Problem Gambling
17 Awareness Month"; and be it further

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

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

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize that problem gambling is

1 a public health issue impacting residents in this Commonwealth
2 in a harmful way that needs to be addressed in a reasonable and
3 responsible manner; and be it further

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