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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 59 Session of  
2009

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INTRODUCED BY HARKINS, SANTONI, FABRIZIO, SCHRODER, BEYER, ROSS,  
GEORGE, SONNEY, READSHAW, PALLONE, SAINATO, M. O'BRIEN,  
FLECK, PAYNE AND SEIP, FEBRUARY 9, 2009

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INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
FEBRUARY 9, 2009

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A RESOLUTION

1 Observing the week of March 1 through 7, 2009, as "Problem  
2 Gambling Awareness Week" 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 a significant disruption; and

8 WHEREAS, The National Council of Problem Gambling (NCPG)  
9 reports that 2% to 3% of the United States population will have  
10 a gambling problem in any given year; and

11 WHEREAS, Problem gambling should be considered a public  
12 health issue affecting individuals of all ages, races and ethnic  
13 backgrounds in all communities and having a significant societal  
14 and economic cost; and

15 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is  
16 effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society  
17 as a whole; and

1       WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, professionals and  
2 organizations have dedicated their efforts to public awareness  
3 of problem gambling and the availability and effectiveness of  
4 treatment; and

5       WHEREAS, The NCPG is coordinating the Seventh Annual National  
6 Problem Gambling Awareness Week campaign, which seeks to educate  
7 the public about the impact of problem gambling and the  
8 availability of treatment options; therefore be it

9       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives observe the week  
10 of March 1 through 7, 2009, as "Problem Gambling Awareness Week"  
11 in Pennsylvania; and be it further

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the  
13 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board to continue its outreach  
14 efforts and to work with Pennsylvania gaming licensees to  
15 develop and implement problem gambling programs at licensed  
16 facilities and further promote community-based programs in this  
17 Commonwealth; and be it further

18       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge all the  
19 residents of this Commonwealth to learn more about problem  
20 gambling and the programs available to help individuals and  
21 their families who have been adversely affected by this issue.