

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 10 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY EARLL, FONTANA, PICCOLA, PIPPY, M. WHITE, FOLMER, BAKER, WOZNIAK, DINNIMAN, ALLOWAY, ERICKSON, WONDERLING, D. WHITE, ROBBINS, PILEGGI, WASHINGTON, ORIE, TOMLINSON, WILLIAMS, KASUNIC, FARNESE, KITCHEN, FERLO, MELLOW, LOGAN, STACK, COSTA, O'PAKE, MUSTO AND RAFFERTY, JANUARY 29, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMUNITY, JANUARY 29, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2009 as "Problem Gambling
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and observing the week of
3 March 1 through 7, 2009, 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 will have
13 a gambling problem in any given year; and

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

1 WHEREAS, Problem gambling is treatable, and treatment is
2 effective in minimizing the harm to both individuals and society
3 as a whole; and

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

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

11 WHEREAS, The NCPG is coordinating the Seventh Annual National
12 Problem Gambling Awareness Week campaign during March 1 through
13 7, 2009, which seeks to educate the public about the impact of
14 problem gambling and the availability of treatment options;
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2009
17 as "Problem Gambling Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania and
18 observe the week of March 1 through 7, 2009, as "National
19 Problem Gambling Awareness Week"; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Pennsylvania Gaming
21 Control Board to continue its outreach efforts and to work with
22 the Pennsylvania gaming industry as a whole and with slot
23 machine licensees to develop and implement problem gambling
24 programs at licensed facilities and further promote community-
25 based programs in this Commonwealth; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol
27 Programs within the Department of Health, the Pennsylvania
28 Gaming Control Board and individuals, professionals and
29 organizations dedicated to public awareness and treatment of
30 problem gambling to jointly create, develop and promote public

1 awareness campaigns regarding the recognition and prevention of
2 problem gambling; and be it further

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