

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, research indicates that approximately 6 million American adults and an additional 1 million youth are addicted to gambling; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of adults and adolescents in Washington State have experienced severe gambling problems in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, public awareness and treatment have been proven to limit the rate of problem gambling and suicidal ideation in Washington and other states; and

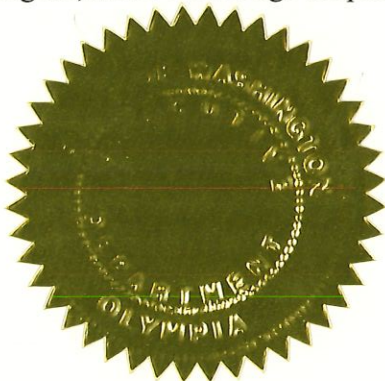
**WHEREAS**, the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling is a nonprofit organization working to increase public awareness of problem gambling, train treatment providers and gambling industry personnel to address it, enhance the availability of treatment services for problem gamblers, and conduct youth-based prevention programs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that the gambling industry and the mental health, primary care, treatment, and recovery communities join together to increase public awareness of problem gambling and its high co-occurrence with anxiety and substance use disorders, and to take measures to address this addiction;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim March, 2018, as

### ***Problem Gambling Awareness Month***

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2018

Handwritten signature of Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee