PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION PGCB-2016-1-CPG

WHEREAS, The legislative intent of the Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act ("Gaming Act") recognizes, in part, that the public interest of the citizens of this Commonwealth and social effect of gaming shall be taken into consideration in any decision or order made pursuant to the Gaming Act; and

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board ("PGCB") recognized the social effect of gaming when it created the Office of Compulsive and Problem Gambling to: conduct research; develop public outreach efforts; work with the Pennsylvania slot machine licensees to develop and implement problem gambling programs at licensed facilities; administer the PGCB's Self-Exclusion Program; and promote problem gambling education programs in this Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, The Gaming Act established a special fund to be known as the Compulsive and Problem Gambling Treatment Fund, and required that all money in the fund should be expended for programs for public awareness, prevention, research, assistance and treatment of gambling addictions; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is a public health issue affecting Pennsylvanians of all ages, races, gender and ethnic backgrounds in all communities; and

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

WHEREAS, Numerous individuals, professionals, agencies, and organizations in Pennsylvania have dedicated their efforts to the education of the public about problem gambling and the availability and effectiveness of treatment; and

WHEREAS, Promoting awareness of problem gambling is an opportunity to educate the public and policy makers about the social and financial issues related to problem gambling; and

THEREFORE, The Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board hereby recognizes March, 2016 as PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH. We encourage all citizens to learn more about the signs of problem gambling and to help spread the message about the availability of treatment.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing Resolution was adopted on February 10, 2016.

Dorty Theis, Board Secretary