



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State supports initiatives that raise awareness of the various forms of addiction which impact the lives of millions of New Yorkers, Americans, and people worldwide; therefore, we join with the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (NYS OASAS) in observing March 30, 2017 as Problem Gambling Awareness Day in New York State; and

Whereas, we recognize this day in conjunction with the National Council on Problem Gambling's nationwide designation of Problem Gambling Awareness Month and efforts to draw attention to problem gambling throughout the month of March; and

Whereas, this observance recognizes individuals in the problem gambling community who are dedicated to educating the public about available treatment and support services for those affected by problem gambling; and

Whereas, problem gambling is a significant public health issue that affects nearly one million of New York State's adolescents and adults, and also has an impact on their loved ones, friends, co-workers, and communities; and

Whereas, through NYS OASAS, up to \$4.7 million in annual funding is available for statewide problem gambling outreach, education, and awareness services; this includes the development and oversight of seven Problem Gambling Resource Centers throughout the State, to serve as regional hubs to coordinate referrals for problem gambling services in their region, and to collaborate with local gambling facilities to ensure information and referrals are available if needed; and

Whereas, on this day, individuals, professionals, and organizations throughout New York State join together to renew their commitment and dedication to educating the public about problem gambling, the effectiveness of prevention efforts aimed at preventing problem gambling, and the availability of treatment services, so the hope for recovery reaches people in communities all across New York State; and

Whereas, New Yorkers who may be affected by problem gambling can continue to benefit from the availability of the State's toll-free HOPEline telephone referral service, at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or Text HOPENY (Short Code 467369), where clinically trained professionals can make referrals to services 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

Whereas, NYS OASAS invites all New Yorkers to join in recognizing Problem Gambling Awareness Day and Month by participating in efforts to raise awareness through their social networks and/or visiting the NYS OASAS Facebook and Twitter pages to help spread the word that problem gambling is a public health issue that can be effectively addressed through continued prevention, education, treatment, and recovery efforts;


Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 30, 2017 as


PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS DAY

in the Empire State and encourage all citizens to help spread the message that there is help and hope for those who are affected by problem gambling, as well as help and support for their loved ones through prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-ninth
day of March in the year two thousand seventeen.




Governor


Secretary to the Governor