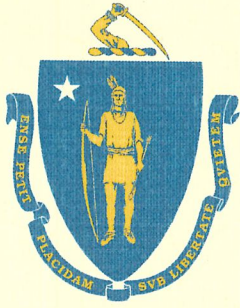


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, To maximize the benefits of casino gaming in Massachusetts, we must tirelessly seek to minimize any potential harm, including problem gambling; and

Whereas, Research has proven that problem gambling affects over 110,000 Massachusetts residents and another 440,000 residents are at-risk of developing a problem; and

Whereas, Problem gambling disproportionately impacts some groups, but any Massachusetts resident, regardless of age, race, or ethnic background, can be affected; and

Whereas, Promoting an awareness month provides individuals in the problem gambling community with an opportunity to educate the public and policymakers about the social and financial effectiveness of services available for problem gambling; and

Whereas, Problem gambling is preventable and should include community-based prevention along with responsible gaming strategies that combine casino-based with public outreach and education strategies; and

Whereas, Problem gambling is treatable, and therefore treatment and other intervention strategies should be widely accessible for Massachusetts residents; and

Whereas, Research on gambling behaviors and problem gambling is necessary and informs effective prevention and treatment programs; and

Whereas, Numerous individuals, professionals, and organizations have dedicated themselves to educating the public about problem gambling and the availability and success of treatment,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim March 1st to March 31st, 2021, to be,

PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this tenth day of February, in the year two thousand and twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-fourth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in blue ink.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in blue ink.

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

Handwritten signature of William Francis Galvin in blue ink.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts