



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Problem gambling, defined as an urge to continuously gamble despite severe negative consequences or a desire to stop, is a serious public health issue affecting an estimated 380,000 Georgians of all ages, socioeconomic levels, and ethnic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS: Problem gambling can have a significant negative societal and economical impact on individuals, families, businesses, and communities. If treated, these damaging effects to both individuals and society as a whole can be drastically minimized; and

WHEREAS: It is imperative that we bring awareness to the seriousness of problem gambling so citizens may know the symptoms and treatment options necessary to help themselves or their loved ones; and

WHEREAS: Numerous individuals, professionals, and organizations, including the Georgia Council on Problem Gambling, are dedicated to educating the public about the consequences of this disease as well as the availability and effectiveness of treatment; and

WHEREAS: Problem Gambling Awareness Month is also a time to celebrate and admire the men and women in Georgia who have worked diligently to overcome problems associated with their gambling behavior; now

THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim March 2016 as PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 3rd day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand sixteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF