Committee	ltem	No
<b>Board Item</b>	No	33

## COMMITTEE/BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Committee		Date	
Board of Su	pervisors Meeting	Date <u>March 4, 2014</u>	
Cmte Boa		s)	
OTHER	(Use back side if additional sp		
Completed by: <u>John Carroll</u> Completed by:		Date <u>February 27, 2014</u> Date	

An asterisked item represents the cover sheet to a document that exceeds 20 pages. The complete document is in the file.

[Problem Gambling Awareness Month - March 2014]

Resolution declaring March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County of San Francisco.

WHEREAS, Six to eight million Americans, including more than 1.2 million Californians, meet the criteria for problem gambling and, by their gambling behavior, negatively affect the lives of another 48 to 80 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is defined as gambling behavior which causes disruption in any major area of life: psychological, physical, social, vocational, health, spiritual or emotional; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling ("gambling disorder") has been classified recently by the American Psychiatric Association as an addiction with similarities to the causes and consequences of alcohol and drug dependence; and

WHEREAS, Behavioral signs of problem gambling include gambling to escape boredom, pain or loneliness, lying to loved ones to conceal the extent of gambling, needing to gamble with increasing amounts of money in order to achieve excitement, borrowing money to gamble, and trying repeatedly over time to win back money lost; and

WHEREAS, Many Americans gamble more money each year than they spend on groceries, betting upwards of \$900,000,000,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, Problem gambling is a public health issue impacting relationships, families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Populations at high risk for gambling problems includes seniors, youth, college students, veterans, African Americans, Asian Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans; and

WHEREAS, Only 15% of problem gamblers ever seek treatment; and

WHEREAS, Numerous free resources, including self-help workbooks, phone-based counseling, individual counseling, support group counseling, residential care and a locally-based 24/7 helpline (1-888-968-7888) are now available for problem gamblers and affected individuals; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Public Health - Community Behavioral Health Services, in partnership with NICOS Chinese Health Coalition, made the City and County of San Francisco one of the first municipalities in the nation to offer a problem gambling prevention program to its residents, beginning in 1998; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco recognizes the month of March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco declares March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month in the City and County San Francisco.

## **Introduction Form**

By a Member of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor

I hereby submit the following item for introduction (select only one):
1. For reference to Committee:
An ordinance, resolution, motion, or charter amendment.
3. Request for hearing on a subject matter at Committee:
4. Request for letter beginning "Supervisor inquires"
☐ 5. City Attorney request.
☐ 6. Call File No. from Committee.
7. Budget Analyst request (attach written motion).
8. Substitute Legislation File No.
9. Request for Closed Session (attach written motion).
☐ 10. Board to Sit as A Committee of the Whole.
11. Question(s) submitted for Mayoral Appearance before the BOS on
Please check the appropriate boxes. The proposed legislation should be forwarded to the following:  Small Business Commission  Youth Commission  Ethics Commission
☐ Planning Commission ☐ Building Inspection Commission
Note: For the Imperative Agenda (a resolution not on the printed agenda), use a different form.
Sponsor(s):
Mar, Avalos, Cohen
Subject:
Resolution Declaring March 2014 as Problem Gambling Awareness Month
The text is listed below or attached:
Please see attached document.
Signature of Sponsoring Supervisor:
For Clark's Use Only.

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